

WE ARE



Mount Saint Mary's University  
LOS ANGELES







# WE ARE



Mount   
 Saint Mary's  
 University

LOS ANGELES

2016-2017

Chalon Campus  
 12001 Chalon Road  
 Los Angeles, CA 90049  
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Doheny Campus  
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 Los Angeles, CA 90007  
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00-20 Chalon Orientation  
Doheny Orientation  
Welcome Week  
Planet Hollywood  
Student Involvement Fair  
Mass of the Holy Spirit  
Women's Leadership Conference  
Exceptional Women  
Mount's Got Talent

21-45 STEM Symposium  
ISAE Fall Fling  
Grad Fair  
Homecoming  
Dr. Joyce Banda, Former President of Malawi  
Athenian Day  
Mount in the City  
Haunted Campus  
The Bridge at the End of the Road  
Charity Ball  
Harvest Festival  
Sport-tastic  
Twin Frenzy  
2016 Election  
Etiquette Dinner  
Fall Fair  
Lighting of the Circle  
Scholar Fair  
De-Stress Day  
Christmas Magic at the Mansion  
Spring Involvement Fair  
US Poet Laureate  
Commuter Appreciation  
Candlemas and Crafts

46-83 Wellness Movement  
Variety Show  
Mardi Gras  
Glow in the Dark Volleyball  
Ash Wednesday  
Men at the Mount  
Luau  
CSJ Appreciation Day  
Job and Internship Fair  
Movie Night  
Report on the Status of Women and Girls  
President's Invitation to Serve  
Pilipino American Culture Night  
Senior Farewell Dinner  
Academic Symposium  
Spring Carnival  
Admitted Student Day  
Who is Stressed?  
Senior Seminar  
De-Stress Day  
Study Jams  
Athenian Awards  
Spring Sing



Earth Day  
Laurel Day  
Senior Bravo Banquet  
Mary's Day  
Mount Weekender  
Eggstravaganza  
Health Expo  
Denim Day  
I am... Film Festival  
Confirmation  
TEDx MSMU  
Commuters  
Residents

84-112 Commencement Mass  
Commencement  
Senior Portraits  
Dedication Pages  
Yearbook Staff  
Retrospective  
In Memory





At Mount Saint Mary's University, Los Angeles we are **DRIVEN** and **PASSIONATE**. We are **CONQUERORS** of those sleepless nights we spend studying and buried in our books. Together we are **STRIVING** toward one ultimate goal: graduation. We bring to the Mount the hopes of becoming a person of great value and becoming **STRONGER** than our heroes. We come for the pursuit of **KNOWLEDGE** and **WISDOM** from those who came here before us. With the **INSPIRATION** brought to us by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, we can aim to be as **POWERFUL** and **GENEROUS**. We are **FIGHTERS**. We are **FOCUSED**. We are **FEARLESS**.

**WE  
ARE...**

# Chalon Orientation

June 24, 2016

Student Orientation is a day in which new students get to visit our campus for two days and experience what it is like to be an Athenian! The Class of 2020 arrived to campus bright and early for check-in. They immediately got to meet their O-group leaders and fellow classmates. O-group leaders made sure to give their O-babies a warm welcome and even shared some laughs. Bonds were definitely formed that morning. The day began with an Orientation Welcome hosted at Mary Chapel by Dr. Jane Lingua, Vice President for Student Affairs. She posed a question to Class of 2020, "what will you do while at the Mount?" She made them think about the opportunities that will come their way and how to believe in themselves. President Ann McElaney-Johnson also spoke to the students and gave them advice for how they should carry themselves in our Mount community. She also invited everyone to come up to her and introduce themselves and in doing so try to make a lasting impression. In the evening, students got to relax and enjoy an outdoor movie with their friends. On the second day of activities, students got to meet with their advisor's and register for classes. They also attended workshops that were provided to inform students about programs and opportunities the Mount offers. In the afternoon, the Alumnae "Mugging", a Mount tradition, took place and the Class of 2020 got to pick out their own MSMU mug with a personalized note from a Mount alumnae. Their mug was then filled with ice cream and soda to create a root beer float, which was perfect to fight off the heat. At the end of Orientation, everyone gathered into Mary Chapel to have a final prayer service. The Class of 2020 was pinned with the traditional "fleur de lis" pin symbolizing their official entrance into the Mount community.

By: Patricia Arias



**Dabber's Alert.** O-Group 16 were definitely trendy at Orientation this year. They dabbed for their group picture next to the Mary Statue and created one of the most unique Orientation team pictures.

**Selfie Everyone!** O-Group leaders gathered on the staircase by Mary Chapel to take a group picture commemorating the fun and exciting times to come at Orientation.

**Jumping into the year!** Jumping pictures are some of the most difficult to accomplish, but O-Groups 21 and 22 joined forces and owned this epic picture.





Design: Patricia Arias  
 Photography: Patricia Arias,  
 Women's Leadership and Student  
 Involvement



**Welcome All!** Residence Life Associate Director, Chinako Belanger, helps facilitate the check-in process. Students from Class of 2020 arrived early and were greeted with smiles from the entire check-in staff.

**Giving Back.** Several alumnae from previous years were present at the Mount to talk to and serve root beer floats to incoming freshmen.

**Fleur de Lis Bless.** The Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet bless the lanyard with the fleur de lis so it may help student's prosper at Mount Saint Mary's University.



# ... Adventurous

# Doheny Orientation

July 22, 2016

Green shirts, sweaty bodies, purple bags and 2020. The 2016 Doheny Orientation consisted of this and much more. On this burning day, new students entered our majestic campus, with the Mansion being the highlight at first glance. During check-in at 8 a.m., they stood excited and enthusiastic to each grab a swag bag and complementary breakfast. The swag bag included a folder, lanyard, ID holder, and water bottle, which were all customized with the Mount Saint Mary's University logo and name. In the folder was the schedule of the day. Students got to choose from three different workshops at three different times. Some of the workshops that majority students attended was the time management and how to save money. With no free education after high school who wouldn't be interested in saving a few bills here and there.

Opening greetings and a warm welcome to the Mount were delivered by Dr. Pam Gist, Associate of Arts Dean, Jessica Cuevas, Dean of Student Life, Dr. Jane Lingua, Vice President for Student Affairs, Rene Rouzan-Kay, Associate Director of Admissions and Dr. Rosalyn Kempf, Director of Women's Leadership and Student Involvement.

Everyone was assigned an Orientation Leader. Then, they were dismissed to lunch to socialize and interact. The Orientation Leaders coordinated ice breakers to aid the students in establishing interactions with one another. Many leaders ate lunch right along with the incoming freshman to share some of the current experiences and lessons learned that may not necessarily be taught in classes or by parents. During this time, games were played to further break the ice. Many students of the Mount have said that Orientation is the place where life long friends are made. Tours were provided right after to make sure the first day of classes went smoothly for students. A run through of all the departments was made to ensure that all students know who to go to within times of need, questions on financial aid and so much more. Additional workshops were provided to the students to meet some of the directors of offices and learn about the services provided. At the end of the day, students exchanged numbers and set up hang out dates for the future.. Everyone enjoyed themselves and felt welcomed to their new family at the Mount.

By: Stephanie Castillo





Design: Patricia Arias  
Photography: Nancy Alvarado  
and Marielle Shrock



**Together from the Start.** Friends since high school made the college transition together and made new friends from their O-group.

**Initiation.** Orientation group leader Jeanette Mendez pins the traditional Fleur du lis on the lanyard of the Class of 2020.



**Leading by Example.** Giselle Sipaque leads her group through a tour around the campus. This is an exclusive for all future alums. They get to learn the history and the inside loop to receiving the best and most fruitful experience at MSMU.

**Goodies Galore.** Freshman students Katherine Guinea and Ariel Granados excited for the goodie bags they received welcoming them to the new year. They are excited to see what new adventures await as first years at the new place to call home.



**Inside Scoop.** Fellow alumnae, recent and old gathered on this day to continue a long practiced tradition here at the Mount. They served root beer floats in Mount Saint Mary's University mugs tagged with custom notes of encouragement. Students took this as a great opportunity to learn about their experience at the Mount.

**NEW!**

## Leadership Summit

August 17, 2016

Many MSMU students have asked faculty and staff, how to be a better leader. Mount Saint Mary's University's Women's Leadership and Student Involvement stepped in and initiated The Leadership Summit. Even club members and the general student body were invited to reserve a spot. At the event the directors of offices gave lessons and a representative in charge of MountSync spoke on how to use the website. Towards the end students walked out with a handy notepad full of inspirational notes and guidance.



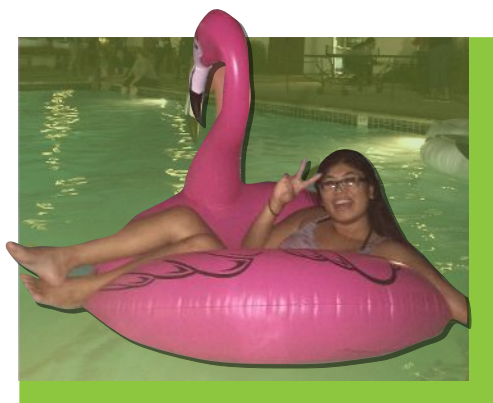
**Group work.** Cynthia Gallegos quizzes other students on the website.

**Listen up!** Residence Life Director, Chinako Belanger informs students on MountSync.

By: Stephanie Castillo

# ... Family

# Chalon Welcome Week



## Pool Party

August 22, 2016

As the last days of summer approached, Athenians celebrated the start of the academic school year with a dip in the pool. While many engaged in an evening swim, others were content to sway their feet in the shallow end, with old friends and new. Jamba Juice smoothies were given out by Fitness Center staff as welcome gifts to those who beat the crowd at the start of the party. Once finished with their smoothies, students one by one dove into the heated pool and began to claim their own inflatable animal float toy. "I saw the pink flamingo floating over by the corner of the pool, and it looked so inviting I had to claim it and have my friend take a picture of me on it," said Kathy Chen, first year Pre-Nursing student.

By: Caitlyn Keeve



**Yummy Cookies.** Campus security gave away cookies to students who played along to a safe campus quiz.



**Friendly Rockin'.** Megan Revilla and Katarina David play in the Student Lounge on Game Day.

## Casting Call

August 23, 2016

For one hour only, students took advantage of the sun between classes, and played The Mount's version of the classic game, "Simon Says." Seniors rivaled the multitude of freshman involved in the game, who had approached the booth fresh from their First Year Seminar class. As the commands got increasingly difficult to follow, many players, distracted by the heat were disqualified. Winners of the game showed excellent focus in order to gain the title of "Casting Call Champion." Hosted by Women's Leadership, Student Involvement, and Student Programming and Commuter Services, this much needed break was complemented with a golden trophy for the winner of each game. Midday on a Tuesday never looked so lively!

By: Caitlyn Keeve

**Follow the Example.** Commuter mentors introduced themselves to their mentees' for the 2017 academic school year.



**Time's Running Out.** Chalon freshman paying attention to the informational PowerPoint about time management.

**No GPS Required.** Aimee Hernandez served as tour guide for commuter retreat. Here she is presenting the circle and Mary's Chapel.



## Commuter Retreat

August 21, 2016

Early Sunday morning, the Student Programming and Commuter Services department eagerly awaited the arrival of first-year commuter students. Director, Dr. Faraah Mullings, Assistant Director, Aja Smith, and Commuter Mentors have been preparing for this moment all summer. The commuter students ate a light breakfast that consisted of bagels and coffee.

Students had the opportunity to socialize and express their concerns for their first-year in college with commuter mentors. Dr. Mullings began the event with a warm welcome and a guided program full of informational workshops, tours, and student commuter panels. Afterwards, there was a scheduled tour where Aimee Hernandez, star tour guide, guided everyone through the offices in school for any request or help.

The last topic of the agenda was the commuter student panel in which students Patricia Arias, Stephanie Castillo, Melanie Sava, and Alumnae Brenda Valenzuela spoke on their experiences as a commuter, a full time student, working and doing other leadership roles. All this while struggling with various issues, but what helped them surpass the struggles was having someone to support and love them. As a college student we should all strive to find that one person in our lives that can understand the ups and downs. We can all love and be loved.

By: Stephanie Castillo

## Athena Go!

August 24, 2016



**All Stars.** Jacob Lahorra and Monique Bracamonte proudly hold their trophies.

Athena Go! an adaptation of the popular digital game, "Pokemon Go!" was brought to life on a Wednesday afternoon. Taking the form of a scavenger hunt, students hunted for pictures of Athena with historical facts about the University attached. After finding the hidden Athena's in the dining hall, outside the security booth, and all throughout the Chalon campus, participants wrote down their findings next to the location on their game sheets. Once finished, those who completed the scavenger hunt, were awarded with cookies, candy, and other treats from Campus Security, Student Involvement, and Women's Leadership. This event allowed students, faculty, and staff to test their knowledge of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet and Mount Saint Mary's University, while participating in friendly competition.

By: Caitlyn Keeve



# O-Group Reunion

Design: Patricia Arias  
Photography: Yearbook Staff

August 23, 2016



**Reunited.** Joanna Tejeda, seen in the middle, was the participating Orientation Leader. Here she is reconnecting with her "O-babies" about the summer and receiving an update on current classes as they venture through their first year as MSMU students.



**Keeping Up.** Students Alyssa Gallano, Valarie Almarez, and Allison Mayol enjoy a slice of pizza while talking about how each of their summers went and upcoming classes.

On Tuesday, August 23, 2016 at 5:30 p.m., Women's Leadership and Student Involvement held the O-Group Reunion, which was a night filled with laughter and enjoyment. The Class of 2020 were invited to attend an orientation in the summer and during their stay on campus, they were placed in O-groups, which gave them a chance to interact with students from different schools and a student who has already been attending the Mount. The event was all about the reunion of the O-Groups. They had the chance to reunite with their O-leader and the friends they made during the various events held at Orientation. The freshmen were welcomed with free Domino's pizza and Caprisuns. It was a great opportunity for them to see familiar faces since the transformation of entering college for the first time. Dana Blakney quoted, "It was great seeing the friends I met at Orientation because I do not have them in any of my classes and never see them around campus." The talk of the event was the fear the students have of their courses, especially in the Nursing program. Everyone wants to do great in their courses and it is stressful thinking of how much work you will have to do and how hard your exams will be. Some students talked about forming study groups, so they can help one another when one student is in need of a peer tutor. Besides talking about their courses, students reflected on how their summer went and how they would spend their free time throughout the school year. The Mount gives off a friendly vibe in such a way that you can become friends with any student you accidentally bump into!

By: Destiny Osborne

# Doheny Welcome Week

August 22-26, 2016

With the adrenaline of the start of a new semester many students are rushing to get their class, deal with financial aid that it becomes difficult to concentrate on the personal health. Thanks to student activities council after the first two weeks students get a breather from life. Students spend a great deal of time either listening to or vigorously trying to distract themselves from a myriad of thoughts that are rushing around in their minds. On August 23, 2016 Welcome Mass was hosted to gives the new and returning Athenians a quiet respite from all of this rushing around. Students came together for a prayer to help kick start the new semester, maintain a positive outlook and successfully weather the trials which come to all students.



**Bright Beginnings.** Fr. Eddie Samaniego hosted the welcome Mass at Doheny to bring the light of joy and hope to a fruitful and positive year.

Then to spice up the semester clubs and organizations came together to showcase to new members at the Student Involvement Fair. On August 25, 2016 the Student Involvement Fair was hosted to get students involved at the Mount. Athenians join today and lead tomorrow! New Athenians are given the opportunity to interact with faculty, staff, and current students. They received knowledge of new opportunities they could join for an easier transition to collegiate life. Athenians enjoyed free ice cream and participated in a group game of "Hot Potato" on the North Lawn while jamming out to hits DJ'd by AMP 97.1 Radio. They entered raffles and took home great giveaways, but the real prize was the experience of connecting with other students and becoming a part of something new.

By: Heaven Mella

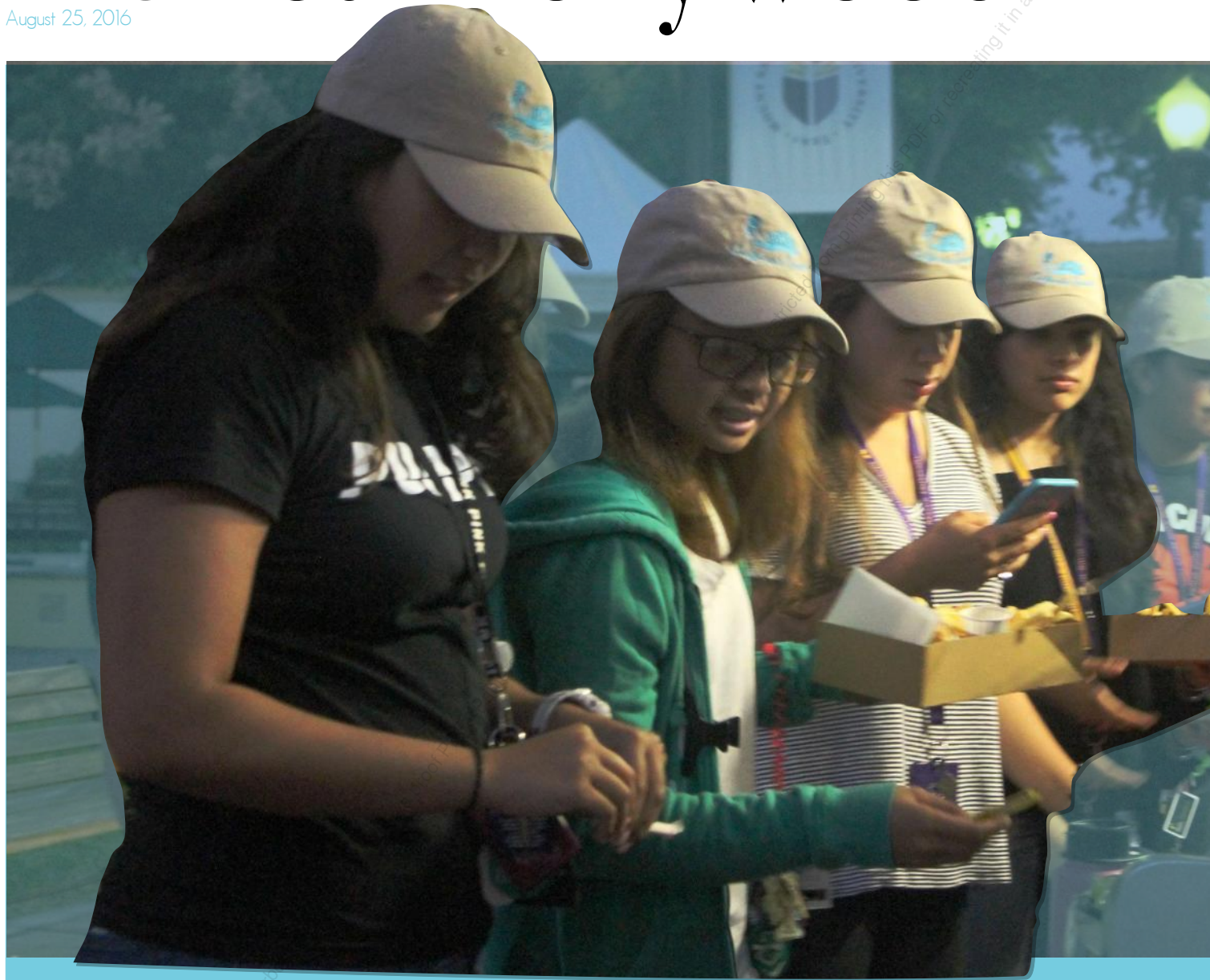


**Meaningful Participation.** Doheny student looks and wanders around the Fair in search of new ways to help out her community and younger generations.

## ... Initiators

# Planet Hollywood

August 25, 2016



**Flash Pose.** First Year students Kiana Reconsal-Brown, Rebecca Barron and Meklit Mogues celebrate their newfound friendship with this power stance, while waiting for the DJ to play some more remixed Top 40 hits.



**Residents Unite.** A group of returning sophomores pose for a picture, while waiting to check in and receive their raffle tickets during the Welcome Week event.

**Distributing the Goods.** Jessica Farrell, along with others from Women's Leadership and Student Involvement eagerly handed out limited edition Welcome Week hats for the first 100 students in line.





On Thursday night students and staff of Mount Saint Mary's University shared a night of fun and food in celebration of Welcome Week. Beginning just as the last rays of daylight disappeared behind the mountains, Planet Hollywood dance party assembled in the Circle. Within the first ten minutes of the event, the line for student check-in weaved past the fountain filled with eager faces and hungry eyes. Upon checking in, students were entered into a raffle drawing for a free gift basket stuffed to the brim with MSMU memorabilia such as, water bottles, coffee cups, and beach mats. Along with a raffle ticket, the first 100 people in line were given free limited edition Welcome Week hats, emblazoned with the theme for the week, "California Dreamin'" written in a shade as blue as our ocean. First year student Celine Smith said, "I saw so many people walking around with this hat during other Welcome Week events. My friends and I arrived at Planet Hollywood at 5:30p.m. to be first in line, just to make sure we got a hat!". This kind of patience and enthusiasm flowed throughout the crowd as many braved the chill of the evening and held spots for their friends to arrive.

At the end of their wait, students got to enjoy a delicious serving of burgers, fries, and a choice of drink, from popular burger joint The Habit food truck. This event is continuously a success for the Mount because it comes at a great time for students that are beginning to feel the pressures and stress that can come from being away from home. "We really try to encourage first years to attend the events because at the end of the day, the Mount is what you make it, might as well make college a great experience," explained Sophomore Resident Assistants Elizabeth Shokoya and Natalie Gayles. The weight of new classes and work responsibilities melt away when in the presence of friends and fries. "I have always enjoyed Welcome Week because of the free food, and the chance to hang out with friends that have different class schedules than I do," said third year student Julia Vanella.

As everyone enjoyed their food, and laughter filled the air, Athenian energy began to mix with the steady bass of top 40 remixes from the DJ's booth. From Bieber to Beyoncé, Jaxon, also known as, DJ Mr. Fogg Creation initiated and sustained the dance party into the night. After successfully playing Mount Saint Mary's University Welcome Week as his first gig since graduating from the Scratch DJ Academy here in Los Angeles, he is now able to DJ events all over the city. DJ Mr. Fogg Creation, was also accompanied by Paul Dupree from the popular news source BuzzFeed. After confirming himself as the popular internet news star, a crowd of students lined up for a chance to get his autograph and snap a picture with him in front of the booth. After a crowd pleasing rendition of Beyoncé's "Formation", two group line dances, and more additions to the dance floor, green glow sticks were tossed to the party-goers to end the celebration. As a first introduction to campus life and activity, Planet Hollywood served as a safe social environment for the young freshman away from home for the first time, to the nostalgic senior celebrating welcome week for the last time.

By: Caitlyn Keeve



**Winner!** Veronica Faustino won the raffle prize and was super excited for it. The gift consisted of a basket filled with toiletries that she will surely be using all year.



**Celebrity Alert!** Some of our students recognized one of the DJs from various BuzzFeed videos and asked to take pictures with him.

**Get into the Habit.** The Habit Burger and Grill fed the masses with free flowing burgers and fries all night. The orders ranged from vegetarian patties to charbroiled burgers with extra cheese.



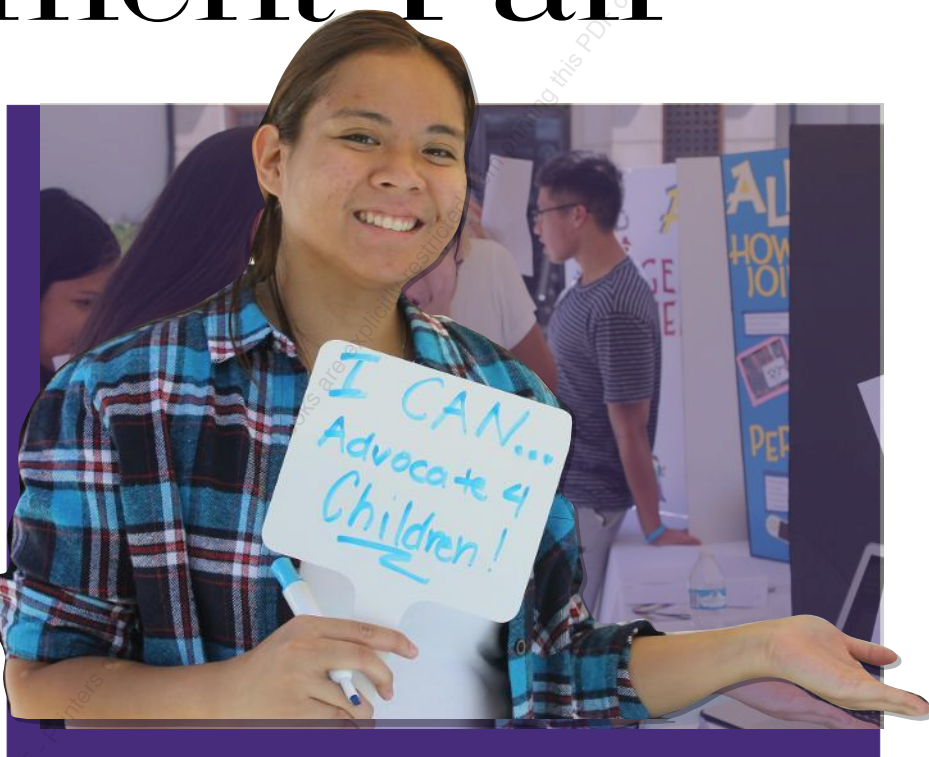
... Electric

# Student Involvement Fair

September 1, 2016

At the start of each new academic year, many look to enjoyable activities to partake in long after they have left the classroom. The Student Involvement Fair unites hundreds of Athenians together, in search of fun, engaging, and culturally aware extra-curricular activities. As you walk past the white tents, each with their own colorful display, you can not help but notice the hard work put into each organization's booth. The Na Pua O Ka' Aina Hawaiian culture club drew students to their tent with an artfully made border clad with colorful island flowers; perfect for aesthetically pleasing social media poses. Student Health Services also benefited from the fair, publicizing their own Student Health Fair and luring by-passers in with stress balls and other free prizes. This was a time of discovery for all students looking to participate on campus and making a difference in the community. Organizations like African American Council of Women and The Athenian Print give students a voice, and allow every individual's story to be heard. With club flyers in one hand and catered Dippin' Dot ice-cream in the other, students were given a chance to explore new outlets of creativity at the Mount.

By: Caitlyn Keeve



**Healthy Us.** Faculty and staff from Student Health Services publicized special events and services that their office provides for students.



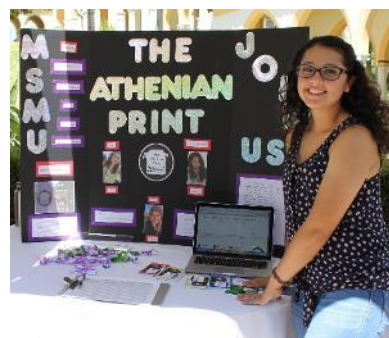
**Smile Baby.** Michelle Zuletta and Jaqueline Dominguez of service organization Operation Smile, emphasize the importance of international medical need here on campus.



**Soul Enriched.** Members of the African American Council of Women (AACW) E-Board stood out in bright pink club shirts at the fair. This cultural organization strives to embrace the Black community by creating an environment based on sisterhood, unity and education in relation to the African American culture.



**Writing Power.** Liz Charre, President of The Athenian Print, online school news publication, represents the professional organization in hopes of welcoming new writers and photographers to the team.





# SAC Welcome Event

## Movie Night!

Design: Patricia Arias  
Photography: Brianna Mendez  
and Caitlyn Keeve

Welcome Week closed off with a friendly movie night under the stars. Student Activities Council hosted the Mounts first movie night of the year with the screening of the critically acclaimed film, *Zootopia*. Candy, popcorn, and drinks were given to the viewers and movie themed gift baskets were also raffled off to the attendees.

By: Isela R. Torres



**Snuggle Buddies.** Close friends lay down and share a blanket to keep warm during the movie.



**Mother Nature Love.** Eco Club Vice President Gabrielle V. Brown represented her organization with an interactive plant and vegetation display. This club aimed to excite students about science, ecology, and gardening projects across Los Angeles.



**Making a Family.** Alpha Tau Delta, national nursing fraternity, invited eager pre-nursing students to join the organization and take advantage of community involvement, support services, and mentors currently in their field.

**Spotlight.** Seniors Estefani Alarcon, Celia Curiel and Jessica Flores, pose with Dr. Haggard, faculty adviser for the Women in Film and Media Club. This student led club helps novice directors and creators to develop their film making and multimedia skills.



**Not Alone.** Residence Life spread the word about the services provided. Along with advertising the StopTrans shuttle services to Westwood and Santa Monica for residents, employees emphasized the cultural, social, safety benefits of living on campus.

**Support for All.** Counseling and Psychological Services staff passed out informational pamphlets promoting their services and stress balls to ease any current or future tension.

# ... Committed



# Mass of the Holy

September 13, 2016



**Holy Service.** Lluvia Velasco, from Campus Ministry, participated in the Mass by providing to guests the body and blood of Christ from the Last Supper and a blessing to those who opted out of receiving communion.



**Service from the Heart.** The Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet received roses from the church in honor of their service and devotion to God prior to Mass of the Holy Spirit.



**Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus.** After Service exit the hall of the St. Vincent de Paul Church as the service comes to an end.



# Spirit

Design: Brianna Mendez and  
Destiny Osbourne  
Photography: Brianna Mendez  
and Destiny Osbourne

An annual tradition at the Mount, students, faculty, and staff of both Chalon and Doheny campuses come together for the first time and celebrated the beginning of a new academic school year at St. Vincent de Paul Church. One student, Samantha Penelora, described the celebration as "a very dynamic experience, very community based and heart warming to see an old church that has not modernized. It felt like church back at home." In honor of the Mass of the Holy Spirit, everyone was encouraged to dress in their best red attire. The annual tradition of the Mass of the Holy Spirit was founded when Dr. Doud first became president at the Mount. As well it is an adapted tradition for all Catholic Schools. The beginning of a new school year comes with excitement, but it can also be nerve wrecking. As the Mount is a Catholic school students are encouraged to seek out the Lord in times of need or as a way of venting to find comfort in a spiritual sense.

The Mass of the Holy Spirit is a time for the entire Mount community to gather in prayer and praise, making the students feel more prepared for the school year. Father George O'Brien and President Ann McElaney-Johnson led everyone in celebrating the first ever Holy Spirit greeting at St. Vincent's Church. During the celebration, the two campuses were unified as one to receive a prayer of blessings on the new academic school year. The church choir, filled with students and alumni, sung songs of joy and the young ladies of Na Pua O Ka 'Aina performed their traditional Hula dance while everyone watched in awe as they presented the gifts to the altar. All were invited to share together in the Sacrament of Holy Communion and blessings. After the ceremony, everyone headed to the Doheny North and South Lawns to have lunch outside and socialize with their friends.

By: Destiny Osbourne and Brianna Mendez



**Becoming One.** Together in the name of God students, guests and Faculty gathered in prayer to initiate the academic school year.



**Hear the Word!** Pastor Miguel Cruz holds up the cross and begins his readings as the church listen encouragingly in prayer.

**Angels up Front.** The choir hymns echoed throughout the church as students and faculty participate along.

**E Komo Mai Aqua.** Na Pua O Ka 'Aina performed their annual traditional dance to demonstrate a union in ethnicities and traditions through a common religion.

**All from the Soul.** Students and faculty involved in Campus Ministry walked in the chapel to present their gifts to the altar.

# ... Spiritual

# Women's Leadership Conference

September 17, 2016

Mount Saint Mary's University has dedicated its entire existence to the empowerment of women. On September 17, 2016 over 400 guests welcomed the Third Annual Women's Leadership Conference. Polished and formal, the students of the Mount participated in search of inspiration and advice for a successful life. They greeted the day with enthusiasm to enhance their leadership skills as they made their way to the Circle. Guests received complimentary breakfast and a goody bag while establishing introductions with fellow visitors. The event started with an introduction from Dr. Rosalyn Kempf, Director of Women's Leadership and Student Involvement, then President Ann McElaney-Johnson passed the microphone to Liza Mundy for the opening speech. Mundy, award winning reporter and *New York Times* bestseller, awed the audience with stories of successful companies because of women empowerment and gender equality in the workplace. She inspired us to believe in ourselves, and strive to achieve a great life. She also fervently reminded us that without women there is no progress. Pumped and ready for more, guests exited the theater towards the remaining sessions. A popular session, "Stress Management for Mind, Body, and Spirit" was led by Dr. Bryant Adibe, M.D., Dr. Svetlana Raichel-Stivi, M.D. and Patti Quintero. Knowing how to reduce stress is vital for maintaining health, productivity and increasing performance as a leader. Svetlana Raichel-Stivi, M.D., said, "lack of motion is lack of mind; our mind has to be with movement, for example breathing." Another session, titled, "Strengths Based Leadership: Recognize and Develop Your Strengths to Drive Performance" came from Alissa Finerman, a professional Tennis player now business woman. She explained how she trains employees and employers on how to become strength-based leaders. Her session helped many identify and develop their key strengths and taught us how to use strengths in work environment and life. For the closing remarks, President Ann McElaney-Johnson gave the stage to Janice Kaplan former Editor-in-Chief of *Parade Magazine* and bestselling author of *The Gratitude Diaries: How a Year Looking on the Bright Side Can Transform Your Life*. During her speech, she described her personal experiences living with gratitude and how it fulfills her both mentally and emotionally. With gratitude we can improve our mood and personality as well as become better leaders. Kaplan left the audience with her final piece of advice for the day, "Perception guides your life in experiences." The Women's Leadership Conference was a success and all who attended became even better leaders that day.

By: Stephanie Castillo



**Special Connections.**  
University President  
Ann McElaney-  
Johnson with Award  
Winning Reporter  
and Opening  
Keynote Speaker  
Liza Mundy.



**Networking at it's Best.** University President Ann McElaney-Johnson with MSU students who attended the conference.





Design: Patricia Arias  
Photography: Caitlyn Keeve  
and Destiny Osborne



**Runin' the Show.** Joe McCloskey has been well rounded in the aspect of running a business for 35 years. In 2012 he co-founded *Helping Women Help Themselves* with his wife, Debby McCloskey. At the conference, he gave advice on how to create and continue running a successful small business.

**All we gotta do is breath.** Stress Management for Mind, Body and Spirit session was presented by Patti Quintero. She is founder of Uma Mother. Through her business she encourages women to come together as a tribe and practice the rituals of yoga through movement and meditation. She is a teacher at Yoga Works and a part of the yoga therapy faculty at Loyola Marymount. She spoke about her beginnings in yoga and how she was able to transform it into a leadership experience to aid and empower others, especially through her collaboration through non-profit organizations.

**Brain Freeze!** Co-founders Natasha Case and Freya Estreller of the gourmet ice-cream brand, CoolHaus hosted this year's Lunch and Learn session. While explaining how they introduced their "architecturally inspired ice-cream creations" the two speakers provided the audience with some of their most popular ice-cream sandwiches. The discussion was moderated by Yahoo! Senior Creative Strategist, Megan Rene Sellers.

**All Roads are Different.** Anestassia Yu '14, Warner Music Group, was a participant in the student alumnae panel. She voiced her knowledge and understanding on the power of networking and how it may open doors to unexpected careers. Other alumni included Jacqueline Larios '12, L.A. Department of Mental Health and Stephanie Mkhlian '14, L.A. Promise Zone both speaking on their journey to success.



# ... Empowered



Melanie Sava

Political Science and Global Politics

**One sentence to describe myself:**

Someone who always tries to be the best version of myself that I can possibly be.

**Greatest achievements so far:**

1) Being accepted to Yale Law School (which I will be attending in the fall!), as well as receiving acceptances to all five Ivy League law schools in the country (Harvard, Columbia, University of Pennsylvania, and Cornell, in addition to Yale), and several other top schools.

2) Receiving two Best Attorney Awards in Mock Trial competition during my four years of competition (sophomore year and again this year), and being named Best Oral Advocate at the California Classic Moot Court competition twice in my four years (freshman and junior year)

3) Receiving the Unstoppable Award at the 2017 Scholarship Luncheon.

**Greatest influencers:**

My parents, who have been wonderful role models all my life. Dr. Boutrous, who has been instrumental in helping me determine my future career goals, prepare for law school, and has also helped to develop my love of the law.

**Dream job:**

President of the United States

**Favorite quote:**

"I don't want to be remembered as the girl who was shot, I want to be remembered as the girl who stood up." - Malala Yousafzai



OnJonet Williams

Film, Media, and Social Justice

**One sentence to describe myself:**

I am an unorthodox creator.

**Greatest achievements so far:**

My creativity has landed me many recognitions and awards including for my film *Please Plateau*, which became an official selection in The Stories Lived Film Festival. I was also a winner of the Intellectual Property's Education Foundations (IPO) video competition and was flown out to Washington DC, won \$5,000, Met and chatted with U.S. Senator Chris Coons from my hometown Delaware, got a private tour of the capitol, had tons of interviews, and attended an amazing awards dinner.

**Change I hope to bring:**

My idea of making a change is listening to people's stories and then retelling them in a way that's going to impact someone else's life. If I can at least change someone's perspective even if it's just for a moment then that's all I could ever ask for. I would like to be a storyteller through my filmmaking, music, and spoken word poetry.

**Dream job:**

My dream job would be to be a traveling cinematographer/filmmaker. I'd love to travel all around the world producing films and telling stories.

**Favorite pastime:**

My favorite pastime activity is editing videos. If I'm not editing videos then I'm watching films. I surround myself with what I love to do every single day that way I'm not just "working on a project" I'm living it.





Mary Safaeipour  
Biochemistry

**One sentence to describe myself:**

I am silly and like to laugh a lot

**Greatest achievements so far:**

My greatest achievements are working in Dr. Stemp's lab and presenting our research at national conferences. We will start working on a manuscript to publish our research soon. I love our group! I'm also very proud of the work I have done at my church to help provide donated food to the homeless of Los Angeles.

**How has the Mount helped you:**

The professors at the Mount are phenomenal and have helped me overcome my self-doubt and gave me confidence to achieve my goals. They have also taught me valuable critical thinking skills that I will carry with me forever.

**Change I hope to bring:**

In the future, I hope to become a physician and volunteer some of my time in free clinics to help poverty-stricken Americans. I also want to do service trips abroad in developing countries. I want to use my experiences and stories to galvanize groups of people and lobby for causes I believe in.

**Dream Job:**

My dream job is to be a primary care physician and one day open a free clinic.

**Favorite Pastime:**

My favorite pastime activity is playing the piano and making up funny songs.



Michella Mousaed  
Business Administration

**One sentence to describe myself:**

I am a determined leader and team player who has a God-given purpose to help people.

**Greatest achievements so far:**

My greatest achievements would be becoming an Oxfam America Change Leader and getting the internship/position as a part-time Financial Representative at Northwestern Mutual. I also received a scholarship to go to the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders, a scholarship to attend PLEN Women in Global Policy. I was a Volunteer Speaker Aid for the World Business Forum where I became the assistant to the CEO of Tastemade. Lastly, I became a mentee for the Alumnae Mentorship Program and also a mentee to Senator Holly Mitchell for 2017. Through these roles I got to serve my community through advocacy and education.

**Greatest Influencers:**

My greatest influencers are Jesus, my parents, Dean Crow, Sister Mary, and Maria Shriver.

**Dream job:**

My dream is to fund my own non-profit to provide resources to homeless women in Los Angeles and at-risk youth. I also want to open my own business to help homeless women get jobs in technology.

**Favorite quote:**

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me," (Philippians 4:13).



# Mount's Got Talent

September 20, 2016

Many Mount students gathered together to celebrate the unique and beautiful talents that our student body has to offer. The first act of the night was Anna Edang who sang an original song while strumming sweet cords on her guitar. The next act was an improv group who made the crowd laugh out loud with their witty jokes and unique characters. The night went on with performances by the Na Pua 'O Ka 'Aina (Hawaiian Club) who danced a traditional Hawaiian dance, a couple of smooth duos, and the largest boy group to ever take on the Mount's Got Talent stage! One of the duos was Mount's Got Talents own coordinator, Marielle Shrock, and her sister who harmonized beautifully to a mash-up of "Closer" by The Chainsmokers featuring Halsey and "Into You" by Ariana Grande.

Marielle Shrock had hosted the event for three consecutive years and finally decided to perform stating, "I had to do it my last year!" At the end of the night, students from the crowd were encouraged to come up on stage and show off some of their talents. Three girls got the courage to get on stage and perform songs from either memory or straight from their phones and one other girl even grabbed her violin and showed everyone what she had up her sleeve. The night concluded after one of the performers sang the classic Oasis song, "Wonderwall," and got the entire crowd to sing along in pure nostalgia.

By: Patricia Arias



**Projection.** Haley Lemons performed the powerful song "Hello" by Adele and showed off her unique croon like vocals.

**Boy Band Charm.** The group "Casa Boys" decided to make the crowd laugh out loud with their rendition of "I Want It That Way" by The Backstreet Boys.

**Sister Sister.** Marielle and Melanie Shrock perform a sweet medley of two very popular songs. The sisters could not be any more talented.

**Duet Beauty.** Richmond Vinluan and Andrielle Tiu perform a calm and serene version of the hit song "Sears To Your Beautiful" by Alessia Cara.

**Shakin' Hips.** The Hawaiian Club kick off the energy of the crowd with their traditional dance. Their hips could not be stopped, and the drums could be heard from a mile away.



**Melodious.** Ava Rutter sang an instrumental-less song and showed off the purity of her vocals.



# S.T.E.M

September 23 & 30, 2016

Design: Patricia Arias  
Photography: Lauren Moore  
and Stephanie Castillo

# Symposium



The Fourth Annual S.T.E.M. Symposium took place on September 23rd and 30th at the Chalon Campus. With the help of mentors and funding from the Title III S.T.E.M. Grant, fifteen S.T.E.M. student researchers represented the Biological Sciences, Physical Sciences, Chemistry and Mathematics department. The students presented their findings to the audience of scientists and student learners alike. Through the S.T.E.M. program, students are able to exercise their scientific concept skills, while creating projects with collected data from



Spring and Summer of the previous year. Several of the presentations were still ongoing data collections. These students used the Symposium to show their available results and explained their plans for continuous research.

Topics of interest were the structure of bacterium and compounds in science. Not only did the presenters give incite into microscopic molecules and compounds, but they also talked about the science behind everyday concepts of human and planetary health. One research project was "The Effect of Material Obesity on Infant Mesenchymal S.T.E.M. Cell Adipogenic Fate and the Metabolic Function of Mature Adipocytes" which discussed the effects of being obese while pregnant, and the risks it places on the baby when they are born. The MSMU Garden Club members also described the different forms of bacteria that can be found in our own Mount Garden in the back of the Humanities building. These presentations not only engaged the seasoned scientists in the room but made the information easily understood by those just starting off in this field.

By: Isabella Solano



**Are you Ready?** Professor Luisa Nogaj asking a question to help further prepare the S.T.E.M. student for her future conference where she will be explaining the same information to a larger audience of like minded scientist.

**Down Memory Lane.** Professor Eric Stemp poses with alumnae Vicky Yamamoto who participated under the same program as a student at the Mount part of the Class of 98'.

**It's a Love-Hate thing.** Rahia Solomon presents her work on the theory based study on Zeolites. Her study began in the summer 2016. She is trying to use zeolites to take a closer look at how the molecules bind together. Understanding the separation may lead to more pharmaceutical progress, since some enantiomers can cure but others may be toxic understanding the separation may lead to more pharmaceutical progress.

## ... Innovators

# I.S.A.E. Fall Fling

October 6, 2016



**Believe in the System.** I.S.A.E. group attendees pose with the symbols for both presidential parties running.

**Our Vote Matters.** Cynthia Gonzalez, Deputy City Attorney for the city of Los Angeles, spoke to the girls on empowerment and leadership of women. As well with the debate approaching she spoke on the importance of our vote. It took us years to be recognized as an important voice to listen to and we should be with ever more reason on top of making our vote count.



Opening the event with an impacting speech about coming from an immigrant family to becoming a District Attorney, Cynthia Gonzalez helped empower girls that are a part of the I.S.A.E. community to do more than what they were taught by their parents. Her full title and position is Deputy City Attorney of Los Angeles – Neighborhood Prosecutor assigned to Los Angeles Police Department Hollenbeck Division. Cynthia Gonzalez an amazing mentor for everyone coming from a similar background with immigrant families, emphasized the importance of using our ethnic culture to help future generation to know what to do when it comes to more legal matters, especially jobs offered within that field of work. During the event they offered taco plates with rice and beans. There was a small activity decorating pots to plant mixed seeds that symbolize change and growth as a community of mixed ethnicities and races. Later on in the event was a documentary styled movie called, "Habla y vota" focused on the topic of getting Latinos to get other Latinos to vote. The movie helped open up a different perspective on how we should take voting more seriously. There will be another themed event at the Chalon Campus, spring of next year. Now go out and vote!

By: Isabella Solano



**Lending a Hand.** Gabriela Ballesteros from I.S.A.E. helped facilitate voting registration for the duration of the event up until the movie presentation commenced. Along with the joy in exercising our right as woman, I.S.A.E. passed out pins with the American flag for all to wear.

## Presidential Debate

October 5, 2017

Doheny



Chalon



Tension. That is all that could be felt tonight during the presidential debate between our two presidential candidates. The presidential candidates are Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton. During the debate both were asked a series of questions covering topics important to the interest of our nation. Both candidates were given a set amount of time to answer with their political opinion. As students watched the debate their reactions were with confusion and bafflement to the responses of the candidate's. With the time approaching soon, accurate and clear answers are necessary to win over the people's vote.

By: Stephanie Castillo



# Graduate Fair

Design: Patricia Arias  
Photography: Caitlyn Keeve

October 6, 2016



This year's Graduate Fair brought the reality of continuing higher education to life for many Mount students. From Law School to Medical school, representatives from top tier graduate programs across the country, educated those interested in becoming professionals of tomorrow. When first arriving at the Campus Center, a sea of students dressed in their best business casual wear, filled the room. After discussing admission requirements with recruiters, each student had the opportunity to get their head shot taken by a professional photographer to enhance and personalize their LinkedIn profile. The attire and overall air of ambition in the room, created the perfect environment for undergraduates looking ahead. Representatives from UCLA Graduate Psychology Program, University of Redlands, University of Southern California, Loyola Marymount University and more, provided students with a day filled with information and anticipation for the future. Two months into the semester, this event provided students with clear goals for the future and connections for references, resources and mentorship.

By: Caitlyn Keeve



**Experience is Key.** University of California Los Angeles Psychology Graduate Department provided students with pamphlets and admission materials about the country's most competitive research program.

## Study Away

September 8, 2016



Just as the year springs into full effect the Study Away fair takes the stage in offering girls once in a lifetime opportunities to see the world while studying what they love. Many girls are excited to one day travel around the world or even visit the country of their ethnic roots. The Career Services office sends emails every week with new study away opportunities. The most popular destination to travel to is Spain. There are also opportunities for business and science majors. If study-travel is not your cup of tea, there is also volunteer travel opportunities at third world countries.

By: Stephanie Castillo

**Destination Please!** Students stand interested and enthralled by the information they are receiving from a study away company representative. Many of the programs offer helpful financial packages to ease financial stress.



**You're the One!** Amy Kennedy is seen being warmly welcomed by the University of Southern California's Child Development Graduate Program at their booth.



**Nursing Nerd Fever!** Freshman nursing students Deanna Torres, Amy Nguyen, and Jaimee Manio hold up their new muscular and skeletal models in front of the Army Recruitment booth.



# ... Ambitious





**Feel the Love of Jesus.** Father George O' Brian guides the mass at Homecoming with all the sisters of CSJ present.

**I love Gold!** President Ann McElaney-Johnson and the Golden Grad donors pose with the check of \$43,735 that will go towards the education at MSMU.

**Keepin' it Old School.** The Golden Grads (Girls) pose with their robes from their graduating class, all happy to be back at the campus that changed their minds.

# Homecoming

October 22, 2016

Welcoming back the Class of 1966 to celebrate their 50th anniversary since graduating from Mount Saint Mary's College, now a University. They are once again invited to reconnect and remember past times coming to Mount Saint Mary's along side old classmates and friends. Homecoming began with an invitation to Hike the Fire trail up the mountain to help start the day with a positive and energetic attitude. As more participants arrived there was a welcome Mass held in the chapel given by Father George O'Brien, preaching words of gratitude and blessing to all those who came to the mount for another chance to be amongst old and new acquaintances. After the Mass, guest moved to the Campus Center to enjoy a well made lunch. During that time, awards were also presented to honor special achievements acquired by alums from the past. Lunch ended with a well earned recognition and special thanks to Jeanne Ruiz, Director of Alumni Relations, whom had worked with the university for over thirty years. Soon after the event proceeded with health and wellness workshops for all guest to attend. A few workshops sessions included lessons about the benefits of spiritual retreats, stress management, and healthy eating, offering words of advice to enlighten participants about small changes that can be made in an everyday routine to improve their health overall. Along with the educational advice offered, there were also small breaks in between sessions that guest used as a chance to reconnect with classmates and have the moment photographed in the provided photo booth during the event. To finish the day there was an assembled reception in the Circle thanking all those who came to Homecoming of 2016 and wishing them continued success in their everyday lives.

By: Isabella Solano



**Do you Even Lift Girl!** Showing off muscle and pride as alumni gather in the Circle again, greeting each other on their class's 50th anniversary since leaving Mount Saint Mary's College and back to Mount Saint Mary's University.



**That's You?!** Graduates brought photo albums with them on the memories they made while a student here at Mount St. Mary's College. Photo albums were the main source of documentation of memory's before smart phones with Instagram.



**Change Much?** Alumnae take a look back in time as they browse through their book of portraits.



**Rule the Kitchen.** Chef Vaughn York demonstrated to the guest his strategy when it comes to customizing dishes to every persons need.



# Dr. Joyce Banda

October 24, 2016

Design: Patricia Arias  
Photography: Tamara Murga



## Former President of Malawi

Special guest Dr. Joyce Banda, former president of Malawi, visited MSMU through the moderation by Professor Lia Roberts, Department Chair in Global Politics.

Dr. Joyce Banda received her bachelors of Arts and Science from Columbus University. She is married with five children, was former president of Malawi, Africa, and the first woman to run. Dr. Banda is listed as #40 Power Woman on Forbes list of 2014. When in office, according to *Forbe.com*, Banda sold a \$15 million dollar jet, cut her own salary by 30 %, dismissed her cabinet in an uproar of corruption allegations, and she restored cash injections from the International Monetary Fund.

To all present, Banda displayed the importance of female leadership and how profound of an impact it makes in government and gender equality. Many students asked about the challenges faced and how they may bring change as emerging leaders. Banda replied, "For those of you studying and practicing leadership, you do not need to be in office to make a change." This conversation with Dr. Joyce Banda was made possible by the Women in Public Serve Project an initiative from the U.S. Department of State and the Seven Sisters women's colleges to bring equal women participation in governmental office. Their goal is to have a 50% participation/ representation of women by 2050.

Many MSMU women felt inspired and enriched in their soul with hopes to one day establish a leadership role to empower and change the world.

By: Stephanie Castillo



## Think Civility

October 26, 2016

Friend Me, Don't Bully Me. Arlene Valdes takes the pledge to always think with civility and increase awareness within her peers.



Round two ! On October 26th, the Mount Civility Project committee hosted their second fair. The head of the committee, Laura Crow, Dean of Student Life for Chalon, hosted the event along with other offices. Its mission, as stated on the MSMU website is, "to raise awareness and encourage civility and responsible citizenship in the MSMU community and beyond." The tables at the Circle showcased games like Toss of Kindness, The Civility Challenge, Spin the Wheel Civility Trivia, and Notes of Gratitude. Some of the awesome prizes given away were reusable water bottles, t-shirts, lanyards, bracelets and civility pledge cards. Many students, staff and faculty showed up to give support to such an empowering event in hopes that it will spark a movement with the Mount Community.

The project was launched in Fall 2015 by Dean Crow when there was an increase of students acting uncivil. Many students were lacking respect and kindness to staff, faculty, and one another. With this project she hopes to teach "support and celebrate a safe and inclusive environment where we treat everyone and everything, including ourselves, with dignity, care, respect and consideration." Quote obtained from Mount Saint Mary's University website.

By: Stephanie Castillo

# ... Legendary



**Green Flag!** With big excited smiles the Fitness Center Staff members Edi Moreno, Leah Fajardo, Tarina Nixon, Associate Director of Sports and Wellness, and Shannon Kummer help referee the games.



**Let the Games Begin.** Autumn Johnson, Director of Sports and Wellness, begins the event with a brief explanation of how the days events will be judged to determine the overall winner of the grand prize for the hundred and fifty dollar gift card to California Pizza Kitchen Cafe.

# Athenian Day

October 29, 2016

With check in at eight o'clock in the morning and a table of snacks, the Director of Sports and Wellness, Autumn Johnson started the day with an introduction of the teams competing in the set events of this years Athenian Day. The first event to start off the games was individual skits. Each team put together a skit that displayed their theme and introduced their members. The next challenge was set in the basketball court where competitors had to complete a three part task, which include carrying a spoon full of candy corn from one bowl to another, balancing an eyeball with a spoon in your hand and last, be able to sweep a small pumpkin with a broom in between the legs all while going in between cones. Once every team completed each vigorous challenge, they were given a break, a breather moment to carry on with the next challenges. The remaining challenges were zombie infested river, bean bag toss, arm wrestling, and pushing a car up the hill.

Giving each team a chance to show off their skills mentally, physically and cooperatively. As the points were ultimately counted to reveal the final victor, there was one last challenge, the candy corn toss. Only it wasn't just trying to



get good candy corn into the cup strapped to one of their members back, but placing blackened candy corn into cups of other teams to decrease the amount of points for their opponents. Once the last challenge was completed the teams moved back to gathering around the pool side to wait in anticipation for the final victors. A good little cheer tunnel created by S.G.A. (Student Government Association) Ghostbusters team keeping the mood lively. A surprise dance off for the teams stirred the crowd with great excitement as they show off their moves while waiting for the final tallied results of the games. Then after much anticipation the winners for each competition was announced by Leah Fajardo. Ending the 2016 Athenian Day event with some group pictures and lively music, competitors can not wait till next years events.

By: Isabella Solano





## Heal the Bay

September 10, 2016



**H**eal the Bay was held to lend a helping hand picking up harsh non-biodegradable pieces of trash left on the beach over the year. Coordinator of the event, Dakota Serafin, gave a small introduction to the Heal the Bay program and explained that their mission statement is to try to protect the environment from toxic wastes like Styrofoam cups and plastic material. As the event began, participants set out in groups of three with given material provided such as gloves, a single trash bag, a list of possible trash to pick up, and water. By the time the event was over, there was about 30 pounds of trash collected in total and a satisfying feeling left with the students doing good for the community.

By: Isabella Solano



**Muscle Anyone.** Using all the muscle they have, the Marvelous Masters take on the car push challenge to try and beat the best time of the day.



**Champions Cheer.** Ghostbuster team cheer on other teams as they join together in a bridge so participants can go on to the next challenge.



**Squash Dance.** The Pumpkins showed off their dance moves in their skit with the Monster Mash song.



**Don't move a muscle.** Ava Rutter stood completely still for the competition, representing the Sakura Society.

# ... Powerful

# Mount in the City

**M**ount in the City is a program established by Student Programming and Commuter Services. Dr. Faraah Mullings, Director of SPCS, brought about this program as a bridge to introduce a cultural, educational and life enriching experiences. Its focus is to broaden a student's understanding on the various events available around the Los Angeles County.

If you ever feel like taking a break from a long week of school, then taking part in a MITC event is the perfect solution! This can be a great opportunity to catch up with friends and make new ones. MITC ventures to shows, musicals, sporting events, and so much more. Come broaden your horizons, experience a sense of belonging and join SPCS on its next adventure.

## AfroLatino: I am the Root

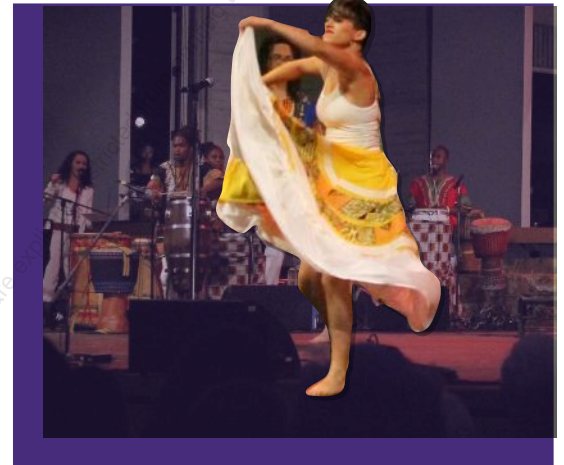
September 10, 2016

**D**ance with Soul. The AfroLatino Festival at The Ford Theater was a show for the memory book. The festival was dedicated to celebrating the beauty and uniqueness of the African and Latin heritage passed down by generations. Students made remarks on how amazing it is when two cultures come together. The music played had a way of bringing these two cultures together effortlessly. There was a wide range of performances from African ritual dances to Cuban and Latino musical performances and instrumental ensembles. It was an unforgettable night.

By: Destiny Osborne



**Dance it away.** Friends were excited to dive into this multicultural event.



## LA County Fair

September 24, 2016



**L**iving the carnival life at the Los Angeles County Fair was a first time experience for the majority of the group. The bumpy road to the LA County Fair was filled with excitement and joy. Everyone looked forward to the excessive fried delicious food which was obviously the first couple of stops. There was a fruitful amount of vendors that sold fried avacados and Oreos to giant turkey legs; it seemed they had it all. Later on during the sunset, new and familiar friends headed over to the arcade games and rides. SPCS generously offered ten tickets to board rides or play arcade games for each student. Everyone was so grateful for the bonus tickets that they immediately made use of them, and some students even won carnival game prizes. Overall, the night was a great de-stresser for a lot of students and even the staff who attended.



**Say cheese.** Everyone grouped together as they arrived to take a photo. Soon after everyone spread out into groups and enjoyed the fair.

By: Isabella Solano

## Universal Studios Hollywood

October 22, 2016

**S**tudents had the magical chance to step into the movie making universe at Universal Studios. Many of the Hollywood favorite movies and shows are filmed and produced here. Most started their journey of wonder at *The Wizarding World of Harry Potter*. This is the years hottest attraction area as it fulfills the childhood dreams of many hard-core Harry Potter book series fans. The day was filled with thrilling experience rides themed around some of our beloved films from the classic *Jurassic Park* attraction to the whimsical movie of *Despicable Me* at the *Minion Mayhem* attraction. Although it was blistering hot, everyone was appreciative of the wonderful memories that were made.

By: Brianna Mendez





## RENT

January 26, 2017

To kick start the beginning of the spring semester, students were invited to see the 20th anniversary of *Rent* at the Pantages Theater in Hollywood. The rock musical tells the story of multiple romances and their struggles with topics such as addiction, homosexuality, and AIDS. The show was filled with excitement and sadness as students watched the characters' lives unfold. Students who have never seen the play before were amazed and loved every part of the musical, while other students who have seen the play before got to sing along to every song. After the show ended, students got a surprising gift when the shuttle driver stopped at In-N-Out for hungry students. The event was one of the best MITC events that they have went to.

By: Brianna Mendez



## Motown: The Musical

February 9, 2017



In honor of Black History Month, MITC celebrated by introducing students to a night filled with immense talent and a performance dedicated to the life of Berry Gordy, founder of Motown Records. Founded in 1960, and extending its power into the late 1990s, Motown produced some of the greatest singers of all time. Diana Ross, Smokey Robinson, Stevie Wonder, and The Jackson Five, were all products of Motown and went on to conquer the world with their chart topping songs that defined a generation. Upon arriving at The Pantages Theater, many guests dressed in their best formal attire or decided to express their love of the Motown Era with bell bottom pants and enough sparkles for a 70s disco. The musical was not only thoroughly entertaining, but it was intentional in showcasing music that represented many African American's responses to the Vietnam War, the death of Martin Luther King Jr., and the civil rights movement across the country. This show had moments of incredible pain contrasted with the great triumph of a man with a vision. *Motown the Musical* was successful in getting the audience to sing along, dance in their seats, and reflect on the power of music to transcend the boundaries of time.

By: Caitlyn Keeve

## Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*

April 6, 2017

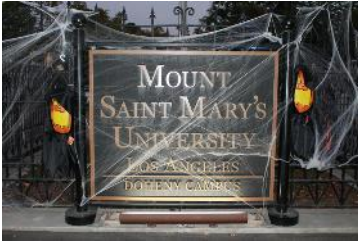
"Tale as old as time, song as old as rhyme, beauty and the beast." This magical tune flowed through the ears of everyone as they entered the El Capitan Theater. Once in the theater, everyone was in awe with the orchestral presentation. Everything sparkled like diamonds and to the surprise of everyone there were cannons shot in the air full of rose petals. As the petals fell, a high definition animation of rose petals appeared giving way to the beginning of the movie. Laughter and tears were present in everyone's eyes. The new film depicted to exact detail the classical animation of the original *Beauty and the Beast* film released in 1991. With the orchestra, decorations, and the cast it made the whole experience more magical and unforgettable.

By: Stephanie Castillo



# Haunted Campus

October 31, 2016



**Spooky!** Mount Saint Mary's University got into the festive spirit of Halloween since the beginning of October with cobwebs, spider webs and spooky hanging ghosts.

**Ghouls rule.** Staff members Laura Gomez, Gaile Krause, President Ann McElaney-Johnson, and Lisa Villa pose as they spent part of the event passing out candy.



With ghouls and monsters everywhere, Mount Saint Mary's University Doheny Campus was full of scary excitement. Halloween is the time of the year where anyone can dress up as anyone or anything they want to be, from a favorite pop star to a favorite superhero. This year's Halloween event was coordinated by Maryann Nguyen, Assistant Director for Student Affairs and Civility.

This year, the university as a whole collected a total of 20,000 pounds of candy. The collection was from professors, students and clubs/organizations. They deposited the goodies at campus offices with a Halloween decorated candy box. There was also a candy box at St. Vincent School and church where the public was able to help with candy donation as well.

During the event, there were several contests open to the public who also came to collect candy. There was a dance and costume contest that ranged between different age groups. The audience and students chose the winner on the spot. Winners were each given a gift card as a prize.

By the end of the night, a total of 15,000 people showed up to take part in this annual event. Mount Saint Mary's University hosts this event in hopes to create a safe and fun night to people of all ages.

By: Stephanie Castillo and Lauren Moore



**Hey Puddin'.** Staff member Gabby Lopez, Administrative Assistant for the Department of Physical Therapy, is the mc of the night as she facilitates the event with the contests and gathering people to participate.

**Queen of the dead.** Student dressed up as a dead ancestor as she takes on the spirit of the day of the dead theme celebrated on November 2nd.

**Sweet rewards.** Volunteers of the event gladly and with good spirit passed out candy and some even got to hug some of the little munchkins that received candy. The hugs just added a more sweet reward to volunteering.



# The Bridge at the End of the Road

October 30, 2016 - March 15, 2017

Design: Brianna Mendez and  
Destiny Osborne  
Photography: Destiny Osborne  
and Lauren Moore

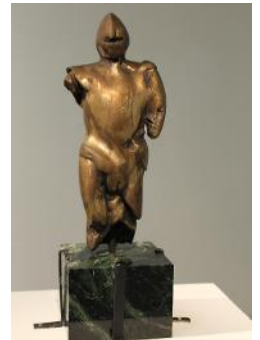


The José Drudis-Biada Gallery held an exhibit of the later works of American sculptor Gilbert Franklin (1919-2004). Gilbert Franklin was born 1919 in Birmingham, England and later moved to Attleboro, Massachusetts because of his father's career as a goldsmith. Often bedridden due to asthma, he would draw often and take trips to the Museum of Fine Arts where his fascination with sculptures arose. With his ambition and support from family, he went to study at the Rhode Island School of Design RISD in Providence, Rhode Island. He excelled in his years there and with his close relationships to his professors, he became a Professor in Sculpture in 1942. Later on, he moved to California with his wife Joyce.

He often traveled to Rome, Italy with his family. He was addicted to the city's environment, people, social aspect, food, and traditions; it became his muse. Franklin also taught and exhibited at the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) in Rome. He was greatly respected and had one of his sculptures, *Daybreak*, placed on the RISD beach in Providence in 1968. His abroad experiences were highly influential to his art; an example of this influence is seen in his sculpture *Spanish Dancer*, 2001 as pictured to the left. With his endless freedom of expression, he created works that consist of various elements such as twigs, clothing material, bronze, charcoal, and oil paints.

Nina Benson, a part-time instructor of Art and Graphic Design here at the Mount, is the co-curator of the exhibit and just so happens to be the daughter of Gilbert Franklin. Ever since the death of her father in 2004, she has devoted herself to curating and displaying her father's work throughout the world. Now thanks to her, Franklin's work was exhibited at the Mount for many to experience and enjoy.

By: Stephanie Castillo



*Gilded Warrior Torso*, c. 1973  
Bronze



*Found in Pompeii*, 2002  
Bronze



*High Heels and A Purse*, c. 1971  
Bronze



*A Seated Woman*, 1970. Charcoal  
Drawing.

**Reel it out.** Film strip of an image of Gilbert Franklin at the foundry in Rome with *Orpheus Ascending* and cat, 1963



**Welcome!** Sign to the entrance of the elaborate and detailed exhibit of art and sculptures by Gilbert Franklin. Due to its popularity, the exhibit was extended through March 2017.

## ... Explorers

# Charity Ball

November 3, 2016



**Dressed like royalty.** Carla Canas, Aileen Fernandez, and Xena Pena celebrate the night with a dazzling group picture.

**Shinning bright.** Jessica Farrell, Student Government Association (SGA) Vice President and Chelsea Gomez celebrate their last year attending Charity Ball at The Mount as Seniors.

Upon walking into the Campus Center, the scene looked like it was cut straight from the movies of Old Hollywood. Decorated with gold stars and pictures of 1950's movie stars, this year's Charity Ball truly transported guests into another world. Dawned in their full length dresses and three piece tuxedos, those in attendance got to eat, learn, and dance all night long.

The Alexandria House, a transitional shelter for women and children in Central Los Angeles, was chosen to be this years honorary cause. The House also functions as a neighborhood center for "education, advocacy, and action," according to their mission statement. These values align perfectly with The Mount's dedication to civility and to a thriving spirit of helping others. Throughout the night, guests were encouraged to leave their tables, which were scattered with shiny silver stars reminiscent of the Old Hollywood theme, and participate in the silent auction.

Outside the Campus Center on the terrace, were a variety of items donated by clubs, organizations, and donors to bid on. Among the company were festive holiday mugs, Lush bath products, an Apple iPod, a designer handbag, and much more. Under the stars in the sky, patrons wrote down their bids and proceeded to hover around their item in the hope that no other would outbid them for the prize. After the dinner catered and donated by nearby restaurants, students took to the dance floor to celebrate both the end of the week and the great cause.

By the end of the night, over \$2,000 in ticket sales and auction bids was raised for The Alexandria House. Rebecca Sandoval, Charity Ball committee leader and member of Student Government Association (SGA) commented "This was my first year being the leader of the Charity Ball committee and I am so glad it was a huge success! I couldn't have done it without everyone's hard work."



**Funny faces.** Students who attended the event had lots of fun in the photo booth.



**Kissy faces.** Brittney Plascencia-Saldana, Assistant Director of Women's Leadership and Student Involvement shares a laugh with some of the night's volunteers.

By: Caitlyn Keeve



# Harvest Festival

November 6, 2016

Design: Brianna Mendez  
Photography: Caitlyn Kieve and  
Heaven Mella and Isabella Solano



## Doheny



**Dive in.** The hardworking staff and faculty of Mount Saint Mary's, as shown here, show off their sports skills through a fun, friendly game of volleyball.



**Climb, climb, climb!** The children of staff and faculty had some fun too, climbing to the top of the rock wall.

As the months turn over and leaves begin to change their color, everyone begins to turn their attention to cooler weather and different outdoor activities. The Fall generally brings about a different feeling and atmosphere at Mount Saint Mary's University. Within the Mount community, a sign of appreciation is shown for all members of faculty and staff, along with their families. Being part of a greater community is one of the best things to have here. The Harvest Festival at The Mount brought the staff, faculty, their families, and close friends together to celebrate abundant food, lively music and good company. There were various types of entertainment that made everyone feel welcome and involved. Tables for crafts were set up for children of faculty and staff to decorate their own cups and mini plushies. Many got their face painted with different, colorful designs and got Henna tattooed on their hands. Guests took home a unique caricature drawing of themselves to cherish for years to come. The children had the chance to bounce, jump, play in the bouncy houses and laugh to their heart's content.

There was also a rock climbing wall that the children were eager to climb. A photo booth was set up with a different kinds of props like goofy sunglasses, feather scarves, and silly signs. Those who got their pictures taken enjoyed the props and let loose for the camera. The most exciting part of the Harvest Festival was the volleyball game that took place. Staff members including President Ann McElaney-Johnson participated in a friendly game of volleyball. On top of all that, the band got many of the guests on their feet to dance,



**Cartoon me.** Dean Jeanette Stone and her grandkids pose to be made into funny cartoons.



**DIY fun.** During the event, the kids enjoy and get creative with making their own cups to take home.

including Sr. Catherine Marie Kreta. Some just listened and bobbed their heads along to the beat of the music. There were a variety of delicious food served at the Harvest Festival. Everyone enjoyed the burgers, tacos, empanadas or ribs as they sat on blankets on the grass or at the tables where they could chat with those around them. Ice cream and snow-cones were available to cool guests down. Many enjoyed the fried Oreos, funnel cakes, and the bags of popcorn. At the Harvest Festival, the staff and faculty grew closer as a community. Bonds between their children were made. It was a day full of fun, family, food and relaxation.

By: Heaven Mella

# .... Caring

# Sport-tastic



## Women's Volleyball:

With every successful team the first thing that is established is communication between the players and the coach. A few words from Volleyball Coach Nicholas Costello, "With all the fun times mixed with a little rough patches, we made an impact on each other lives that can never be forgotten. It was a pleasure working with this creative group of women. I wish them all the best in their future endeavors in career and personal life. Many blessings!" During this years volleyball season, the love for the game outweighed any negative thoughts of defeat and only help strengthened the team's drive to play a better game than the last.

## Intramural Co-ed Flag Football Team and Men's Basketball:

The Intramural Co-ed Flag Football Team played at UCLA in the fall semester. Their recorded score for the season was two to two. During the spring semester, the Intramural Men's Basketball played at UCLA. Their recorded score was six to one. Even with such a great season full of hard work, unfortunately they did lose in the quarterfinals which eliminated their chances to go to the finals. For both sports, there was a total of eleven MSMU athletes that played on each team. All members showed how dedicated and competitive the students at Mount Saint Mary's University can be. The intramural teams at MSMU do more than help students with team building skills; they help them create a balance of a healthy mind and body.



## Women's Basketball:

Even though not everyone continued to participate in the sports team throughout the school year and the number of team players on the basketball team did decrease, they had a strong season. They played against UCLA, Loyola Marymount University, Grand Canyon University, California State University, Northridge, University of California, Irvine, and California Polytechnic State University. The women's basketball club has continued to gain new advantages in knowledge with practice of new skills learned from each game during the season. With the continued growth of the club, there is no doubt that in each coming season there will be even more success and new challenges to overcome.

## Women's Soccer:

With constant practice in the late afternoons, there was a well built connection amongst players on the Women's Soccer Team. For their first game of the season at Loyola Marymount University, they had a strong defensive team that worked hard to block those shots from the opposing teams. Even though they did lose their first game, four to two, that only strengthened their commitment to work hard to win the following games in their season. Traveling far to places like Bakersfield and San Diego in the fall semester, they made the journey all the more exciting and realized the worth of all those late night practices. With their dedication to playing soccer, these women made this fall semester one of Mount Saint Mary's University best seasons which aided in continuing future success for the sports club.





# Twin Frenzy

For fraternal twins **Christin and Victoria Villalobos**, there was no doubt that they wanted to go to the same school as each other. There is not much that they do not do with out each other. Both women are double majoring in Business and Education with the hopes of one day opening a school together. With that goal in mind, they are taking different styles of education from each type of school such as public and private to help create a more well rounded education system. When the Villalobos twins are not studying hard, they are working out. For them, keeping a healthy body is just as important as a keeping a healthy mind. There is not much that separates the twins from each other except that Christin is an amazing right handed creative writer while Victoria is talented left handed artist.



Identical twins born only five minutes apart **Amani and Emani Davis-Moore** had both decided that even though they were going to the same University, they were going to take different majors. One chose Psychology, and one chose English. Even though both women decided to take different academic pathways, it is common to find them doing similar activities such as University clubs or eating together whenever they can. However, they did decide to separately dorm on campus. After previously living with each other for seventeen years, they decided they wanted to grow a little and have their own space in separate rooms. Although dorming separately has enabled them to grow on their own, many on campus still mistake one twin for another!

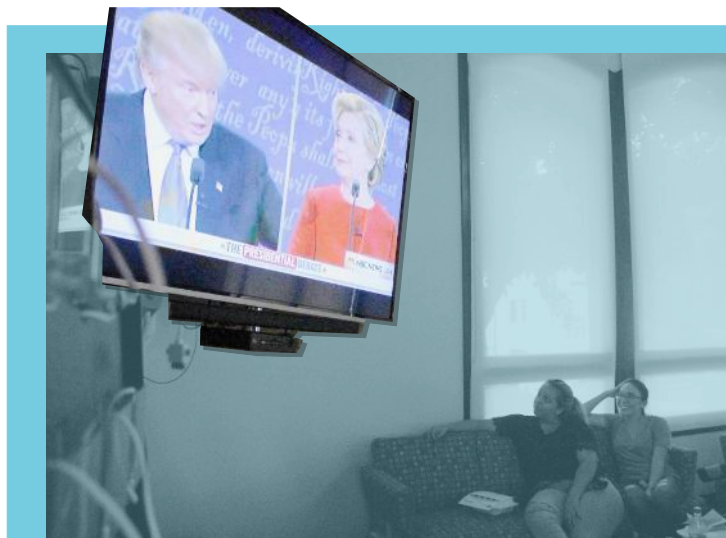
Seniors **Garrett and Grant Vita** who originally had no idea they would ever attend the same University came to Mount Saint Mary's to become registered nurses and fulfill their dream of helping people. Almost able to read each others minds there is not much that they do not do together. This truth includes sports, social gatherings, and living accommodations. It is not as difficult to distinguish one from the other because of there different preferences in style and hair cuts. A fun fact about the Vita twins is that they had agreed to a study at the University of Southern California to test how alike they are and to prove if they were in fact identical twins. What they needed was seven out of nine genes to be considered identical, and they had nine out of nine which proves how truly identical they are!



**Adriana and Andrea Barron** both got accepted to the Mount, and they decided to stay together and attend the same University. Though they go to the same school, they have different majors and goals. Adriana is majoring in Sociology with emphasis in Social Work to help those children living in abusive homes escape it and find a better home. Andrea is majoring in Psychology because she wants to work with children with specials needs. They often, if not always, share experiences together. In one word, Adriana describes Andrea as the outgoing twin while Adriana is the shy twin. Although they share almost everything, they have different views on many concepts. With similar facial features, it is pretty common for people to confuse these two and mistake one twin for the other.

# 2016 Election

November 8, 2016



Who will be the next president, Hillary, Trump or one of our third party elects? No one was quite sure. It was a nail biting, fist clenching moment. The parties hold a number of primary elections in every state and overseas territory, starting in February, which determine who becomes the official presidential candidate. The more primaries and caucuses a candidate wins, the more delegates will be pledged to support them at the convention. Democrat Hillary Clinton and Republican Donald Trump were the clear winners and were officially nominated at their party's conventions in July. They are two of the most unpopular candidates in modern American history. Between the convention and the actual election on November 8th, many media outlets predicted Clinton as the winner of the presidential election due to her vast qualifications for the job and her many ads along with a large celebrity support group. But, when it came down to the numbers the results were too close to call. As the debates rolled out, many unanswered questions and back and forth spats between Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump were the center of attention. Viewers analyzed the candidates like never before and during the debate viewings in the Student Lounge many students sat baffled at the responses they heard. Some viewed the responses as childish and something out of a reality TV show. Students of different ethnic backgrounds and races felt especially threatened during these debates because of the comments being said by candidate Donald Trump. His idea of building a wall and keeping out "illegal immigrants" was truly infuriating and frightening for some students. For others it seemed as if better border security would improve the American way of life. The division between the two was very clear and a hateful trend started to arise between the two parties.

November 8, 2016 - Voting time. Polls opened up at 8:00a.m. and people formed long lines all over the country. More than 40 million people took part in early or absentee voting to vote for their ideal president. After the popular vote was accounted for, it all came down to a system called the Electoral College where a group of people choose the winner - 538 of them, in fact. Just half of them - 270 - are needed to elect a president. Each state has a certain number of these electors based on their population. When citizens vote for their preferred candidate, they're actually voting for the electors, some of which are pledged to Hillary and some for Trump. By 10:00p.m. that night, polls reflected the results. Trump had won the presidency. People watched in awe as President elect Trump took his first steps up the podium and spoke to the people of the United States as their next president. Tears streamed down many faces from sadness and cheers belted out of others from joy.

By: Patricia Arias



**Nail biting moments.** Students in the Student Lounge stay attentive to hear every detail of the debate between Hillary and Trump. Both answer important questions that deal with current issues faced in the United States of America.



**Election day is up.** Students gather in the Student Lounge to see the results of the voting polls. Who will be our next president of the United States?

## Women's March

January 21, 2017

In light of the results for who would be the 45th President of the United States, many citizens took to the streets of Los Angeles on January 21, 2017 to protest and show their opposition of Donald Trump. It was estimated that around 500,000 to 750,000 people attended the event. According to the Women's March website, the protest was meant to show unity and solidarity amongst all who attended and take a stand against any unjust actions that the new president elect may enact while in office. The LA Women's March was only one of many that took place around the nation, but it was amongst the largest. People of all different colors, sexes, ages and identities walked alongside one another in one of the most diverse and inclusive protests ever executed.

By Patricia Arias



Photo Credit: Teamster Local 2010



Design: Isela R. Torres and  
Stephanie Castillo  
Photography: Philip Jordan and  
Stephanie Castillo



**Pinky's up.** Gladys Cerros reviews the guidelines of proper small talk while enjoying the first course of dinner, mint pea soup.

**Be attentive.** Mrs. Hirst goes over some quick tips on how to professionally introduce yourself in a formal setting before the evening begins.

# Etiquette Dinner

November 9, 2016



**Mingling away.** Melissa Lopez, surrounded by fellow business majors, gets the opportunity to mingle and network with new girls.

**Fancy pants.** A group of Mount girls take a break from their course to pose for a quick photo to remember the evening for years to come.

**High Class.** The 21st Annual Etiquette Dinner consisted of new knowledge, new friends, and a wonderful evening with fellow Mount students.

Mount students had the opportunity to attend the 21st annual Etiquette Dinner held in the exquisite Doheny Mansion. Many students, never having been inside the mansion, had the good fortune to take a peep inside and check out its amazing architecture and interior design, along with its unique history. After a quick check-in, guests got to participate in a pre-dinner mixer, where they got to know not only fellow students from all areas of study, but professionals from various fields. They shared their stories and insights to life after the Mount. They were welcomed into the ball room to begin the well anticipated seven course meal. Guests found their respective seats and were introduced to Jules Martinez Hirst, owner and creator of Etiquette Consulting Inc. Mrs. Hirst offered insight not only in the traditional etiquette setting, she also offered tips and rules to follow for a business setting.

As the dinner began attendees were first asked if their preference of eating style was American or European. Puzzled, as many were not sure, guests took the opportunity to really think about how they consumed their food. Throughout the meal Mrs. Hirst gave important tips to uphold during important dinners, including small reminders, such as to not have your cell phone out, to something more significant, like what to do when the meal does not fulfill one's dietary needs. From course to course, guests had the chance to ask questions, interact, and enjoy a beautiful evening with great company.

By: Isela R. Torres

# ... Optimistic



Shades on. The Student Programming and Commuter Services team pose for a picture as they celebrate in their success of putting together this incredible event and bringing people out to have an amazing time.



Photo booth fun. President Ann McElaney-Johnson joined the celebration with other students as she posed for a photo at the Fall Fair photo booth with props and cotton candy.



# Fall Fair

November 9, 2016



A sunny afternoon in November had many students eating all the free food that the Student Programming and Commuter Services provided. The sun was shining so bright, that students showed up earlier than expected because they knew the event was going to be a blast. They gathered around the stage to see the concert of Kid Cadaver, an American neon pop band that formed in 2012, that consists of three members; Raymond Venta is the lead vocalist, Jeremy Harris is the lead guitarist, and Kenzo Cardenas plays the guitar. Kid Cadaver played an amazing concert for the students at the Mount. It was truly something you did not want to miss.

They played a variety of their songs and also new ones such as "Claws." The Fall Fair created a lively atmosphere for everyone to enjoy as a nice rest from studying and stressing for the next examination. The energy was great from the start of setting up to cleaning up. There was a wide range of interactive activities for the students to partake in from getting henna to face paint to creating designs on mugs to taking pictures at the photo booth to rock climbing. Student Lance Alvizo commented that the rock wall climbing was, "pretty cool" and would definitely want to do it again at future events. Everyone who attended had such a great time and the vibe received from them was even greater.

By: Destiny Osborne





**Rockin' out.** Kid Cadaver rocked on during the Fair and made many fans. Some students built up the courage to ask for a picture with the band.

Design: Patricia Arias  
Photography: Isabella Solano and  
Lauren Moore

**Climbing up the wall.** Students have fun building up muscle and taking on the rock wall with three sets of paths. An easy, medium, and challenge side that engaged many to try.



**Muscles on Point.** Senior Criminology major Jennifer Loza hung on tight as she tried to reach the top of the rock. She smiled down to her friends as they cheered her on.

**Reaching great heights.** Nursing Freshman successfully reached the top of the rock and swiftly jumped down to the floor where he was met with congratulatory.



**Henna Art.** Student draws one of her beautiful designs on a Mount student Lilit Manukyan. Many students and even faculty members took advantage of this great opportunity to get a henna.

**Creativity flows.** The Fall Fair not only offered students a chance to take a break from studying, but gave them a chance to fill their sweet tooth with lots of treats, as well as some more fun with a temporary Henna and face painting booth.

**It's always better with friends.** A couple of students enjoying the music and arts and crafts set up during the Fair.



... Festive

# Lighting of the Circle

November 15, 2016

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas at Mount Saint Mary's University. The Lighting of the Circle is a tradition at the Mount that takes place the week before Thanksgiving break. Coordinated by Women's Leadership and Student Involvement, the Lighting of the Circle is an event to get students and faculty into the Christmas spirit over toasty hot chocolate and treats.

It was a time for students to gather and share the joy of the Christmas holiday. President Ann McElaney-Johnson, who gave an amazing speech before lighting the Circle, walked around wishing students and faculty a Merry Christmas while expressing love through hugs and laughs. Members of the Student Government Association, passed out free coffee mugs and kettle corn chips to the eager students who showed up early for the festivity as early Christmas goodies.

The Circle was not only lit up with lights, but the singing of carols and Christmas performances added brightness to the Circle. As Christmas themed songs played in the background, students and faculty participated in making ornaments, Christmas cards, and posing with Santa by the beautiful Christmas tree. A great amount of Mount students and faculty participated in the wonderful event. Smiles and laughs filled the Circle at the Chalon campus as the Christmas season was brought in by the Mount community.

By: Lauren Moore and Isabella Solano



**Kettle corn sweetness.** Bags of warm and sweet kettle corn were handed out to all students who joined the event.



**Christmas in the air.** Mount students enjoying some sweets from Santa Clause himself.

**Warms the heart.** Hot chocolate was provided to students to warm up a chilly night

**'Tis the season.** Ready to start the holiday season at the Mount, with our President Ann McElaney- Johnson



**Ho! Ho! Ho!** Excited to see the Circle decorated in lights Deanna Torres and Anna Perea embrace each other with Christmas cheer.





# Scholar Fair

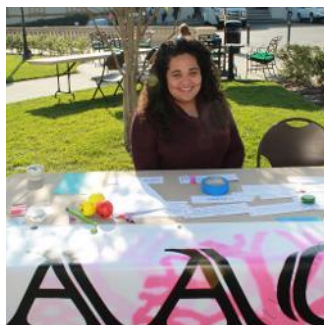
November 16, 2016

Design: Destiny Osborne and  
Lauren Moore  
Photography: Destiny Osborne  
and Lauren Moore



This year's Scholar Fair was hosted by the Scholar Mentor Club and Learning Assistance Programs. The event kicked off with free Pinkberry, but it was based on first come, first serve. Clubs such as African American Council of Women, Latinas Unidas, Alpha Tau Delta, Girls Rising, Korean Class, Le Cercle Francophone, Veteran Outreach Association, The Seekers, and many others participated in this wonderful event. Each club and organization was able to contribute different games and fun facts for all the students and staff who attended the event. Not only did students use their brains at this event, they also got involved in some physical activity. Sports and Wellness got students to engage in some jump rope while Pangkat Pilipino Club offered a traditional Filipino game in which students had to jump over two large poles while it was in motion. Ballet Folklorico did an amazing performance. Overall, the event was an intellectual blast!

By: Destiny Osborne



**One Nation, under God.** The Veteran's Association booth made an American flag and encouraged students to write the names of people they know who used to and are currently serving in office.



**E equals mc squared.** The math club asked student difficult questions to see if they still recalled information from high school.

**Tibia, fibula.** As Hannah Montana once said, "Everybody knows the bones." If you answered the name of a bone correctly, you received a treat.

**A bailar!** The faces of the crowd lit up while the three members from Ballet Folklorico performed in the hot beaming sun.

**Girls plus education equals power.** It is important for young girls to know how important a higher education is.

**History repeats itself.** Joelle Balthazar, President of AACW, held a booth that gave facts about things that happened post Civil War.

... Jolly

# De-Stress Day!

November 21, 2016



## Doheny

At least for a day, Athenians were able to let their worries go and forget their stress. Counseling and Psychological Services, Student Health Services and Sports and Wellness hosted a day for students to relax and participate in stress-free activities, which many enjoyed. Those that participated were able to make their own aroma therapy scent to improve their health, increase their energy, or to help them sleep better. Some students got much needed massages to help them relax their muscles. Students got to paint their nails while socializing with their friends.

Tables were also set up for crafts where students could get creative with making their own gingerbread houses while listening to soothing Christmas music. Many enjoyed the multicolor scratch art that were available and shaped as ornaments and penguins, which was fitting for the holidays. Protein bars were free to students to help boost their energy. Stress balls were given to everyone so that they can relieve their tension when they are feeling anxious about an exam or just stressed out. All in all, it was a stress free day down in Doheny.

By: Heaven Mella



**Aroma therapy bliss.** With ease and calm, Yoselin Rivera makes her own bottle of aroma as a kind of therapy to relieve stress.



**Fire up the oven.** Gabriela Quintanilla immerses herself in making a gingerbread house, a stress-free activity.



**Arts and crafts.** Andrea Zaragoza, Erika Aifan, and Julie Aquino de-stressed by practicing their artistic skills.



## Chalon

As finals week comes closer to date, students are already feeling the pressure of keeping a high score in their courses to make it onto the next semester. Thank goodness for De-Stress Day on the Chalon campus that was sponsored by Sports and Wellness, Counseling and Psychological Services, and Student Health Services. Each department contributed to the stress-free atmosphere that gave each attendee a short time to forget their worries and enjoy the day like any other. Throughout the event, Christmas music played in the background. One of the activities named Aromatherapy was one of the first tables to catch everyone's attention.

Students could create a personal bottle of scented spray to use as a relaxation method with triggering scents of orange, grapefruit, vanilla, lavender, peppermint, chamomile, lemon, and rosemary to help clear the mind and calm the nerves. Other parts of the de-stressing experience included a self-manicure and personalized Christmas ornament section which gave students a chance to sit down and stimulate their creative flow and focus. The last engaging part of the event was getting a soothing muscle massage to target those tense areas with built up stress caused by our daily routine and interactions.

By: Isabella Solano



**Having fun with paint.** Students Daisy Cruz and Isabel Velasquez finish up their final touches on their newly painted nails.



**Enjoying the smells.** Amber Bradley, with the guidance of the Sports and Wellness Director Autumn Johnson, mixes a bottle of scented spray to take with her, like so many other students in preparation for finals week.

**Ready with Christmas decor.** Terri Brown-Shaw joins in on the creative activity and makes a colorful pattern on a heart shaped ornament.





# Christmas Magic at the Mansion

December 5, 2016

Design: Brianna Mendez  
Photography: Heaven  
Mella and Isabella Solano



On a festive Sunday afternoon, the doors of the Doheny Mansion were open to guests and their families. Everyone was greeted with the warm smiles of President Ann-McInaney Johnson and Dr. Stephanie Cubba, as they stepped foot into the Mansion. The Doheny Mansion was festively decorated for the holiday season. Every corner had traditional Christmas decor. Guests were also greeted and entertained by carolers dressed in turn-of-the-century costumes. They sang joyous Christmas tunes that made everyone's heart warm. As guests strolled further into the historic Doheny Mansion, they were welcomed with a wonderful sight of the Christmas tree that stood tall in the Pompeian Room. The gigantic, beautifully decorated Christmas tree, brought joy and excitement to everyone's eyes, especially the children. Lectures were also held so that guests could learn about the history of the Mansion and the Doheny family. Small tours were also led by Docents. Yummy, savory, holiday themed-treats like cookies shaped as ornaments, brownies and cupcakes were provided to satisfy everyone's sweet tooth, and eggnog was served to guests. Many gathered around the tree to take pictures and make memories that will last a lifetime. Joy and laughter spread all over the rooms and halls of the Mansion. 'Twas a merry, magical time at the Doheny Mansion.

By: Heaven Mella



**Greetings!** President Ann-McInaney Johnson and Dr. Stephanie Cubba merrily welcome guests to the Mansion.



**Family joys.** Dr. Rosalyn Kempf, Interim Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs and Director of Women's Leadership and Student Involvement, brought her daughter to see the Christmas Tree and celebrate the holidays.



**Joyful tunes!** Carolers dropped by the Mansion to sing joyful Christmas tunes to all those who came.

**Family is everything.** Jessica Cuevas, the Dean of Student Life, and her family came to experience the jolly occasion at the Mansion.



**Cheerful smiles.** Graduate student, Kayla Harris had a joyful time with her friend, hanging out by the Christmas Tree and mingling with other guests.

... Merry

# Spring Involvement Fair

January 18, 2017

The Spring Involvement Fair showcased many of the ongoing clubs and organizations that scout for new members all year long. At the fair, the Hawaiian club Na Pua 'O Ka 'Aina, searched for volunteers to perform a traditional dance at their annual Luau. Sigma Beta Delta, the resident Business Honor Society on campus, encouraged students to pick up a business minor to stand out as a job prospect. "All of the professors are super helpful and nurturing in the program. Most of the male teachers basically act as second dads to most of us," said Sabrina Turjman. The fair was a great opportunity for students to be reminded to stay active during the school year.

By: Stephanie Castillo



**Science Rules! S.T.E.M.** girls showcased the various activities that W.I.S.H. is involved. W.I.S.H. stands for Woman in Science and Health which means that any major could join. I mean who is not interested in being healthy. They go to middle and high schools to promote the importance of science and health.



**Dance with us!** Allyza Movilla, President of Pangkat Pilipino, is seen promoting her cultural awareness club at the Involvement Fair. Officers Erin Vicente, the Cultural Coordinator, and Jessica Villanueva are also seen spreading awareness for their annual Pilipino American Culture Night during the Spring semester. The purpose for the festival is to educate the Mount community on the history, struggles, and talents of Filipino Americans through song, dance, and performance.



**Getting informed.** Irene Enerio President of the California Nursing Student Association (CNSA) is pictured with Robyn Ruiz (Secretary), Angeline Ferrer (Treasurer) and Nicole Guillo (member). The four of them shared important information on new developments and events in the works.



**Kappa Kappa Kappa.** Jocelyne Roman, President of Kappa Delta Chi, the social sorority on campus was enthusiastic to recruit new sisters at the fair. With her, were Ashley Revels (Community Service Chair), Brenda Cruz (Fundraising Chair), and Crystal Balboa (Secretary).



# U.S. Poet Laureate

January 22, 2017

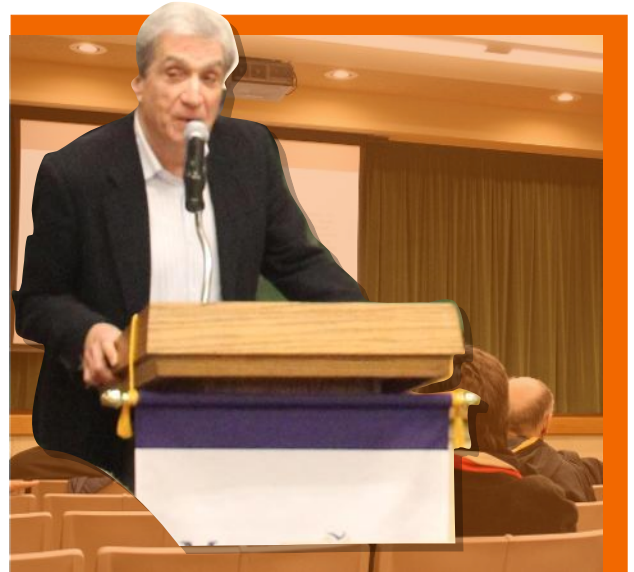
Former U.S. Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky delivered a reading and lecture at the Mount Saint Mary's downtown Doheny Campus. The event was presented by the Ruskin Art Club, an art association founded in Los Angeles since 1888, and co-sponsored by the Mount. His talk, "Rusted is living, Polished is Dead," was edited from the 19th century lecture presented by social critic John Ruskin. Once Pinsky took front and center, all eyes and ears including camera phones were on him. He shared and read his own pieces as well poems of other poets such as James McMichael, Marianne Moore, and William Carlos Williams.

Pinsky said, "I don't think poetry and music are at the fringe of human intelligence, I think they are right at the center of it, right at the middle. Basic, fundamental. They're the root."

Robert Pinsky served three terms as U.S. poet laureate. During that time, he founded the influential Favorite Poem Project. In addition to his career as an esteemed civic poet, Pinsky is also an award-winning critic, essayist, translator and teacher.

The Mount is grateful for having an outstanding poet like Robert Pinsky come and share his art to demonstrate his views of our society. With the gift of words there is no limit to what we can voice and share with others.

By: Heaven Mella and Isabella Solano





# Commuter

January 25, 2017

# Appreciation



Up and early Student programming and Commuter Services staff set up breakfast meal option for commuter Mount students. As part of their commuter appreciation program students are shown care from the school with the promotion of a hearty breakfast. This time Noah's bagels were served along with various spreads. Coffee and orange juice was provided as well.

This Commuter Appreciation event allowed students to receive a quick on the go breakfast. Many of the first students to arrive to the event were nursing students that are on their way from their practicums or on their way to their class.

Through this event for those who did not have a commuter sticker yet the office student workers were available to help out with that too. The set up included tables and chairs so student who did not have class afterwards were free to sit back and socialize as a pre-breather before the day starts. Dr. Faraah Mullings, director of SPCS coordinates these types of events to give back and show appreciation to the travels commuters take to make it to school and to excel in the future.

By: Lauren Moore



**Gearing for the day.** Robert Malolos looks in deep need of some energy; good thing he came to the right spot with free bagels, coffee, and juice for all commuters.

**Energy Boost.** Samantha Pineda and Adriana Ramirez choose from boxes full of assorted bagel flavors and cream cheese choices.

# Candlemas and Crafts

February 01, 2017

The event allowed students to let their creative flow come out and invite them to take their decorated candles to the candlemas event at the chapel in the evening. The purpose of the candle is to give it to the person that symbolizes the light in your present life. With each candle holder every participant was also given a battery powered candle, a short prayer, and an invitation to go to Candlemas. There was also freshly baked cookies inviting people to stop by and look at the set up for Candlemas.

Assistant Director of Campus Ministry, of the Chalon campus, Laura Gomez came by with mercy bags to offer participants and anyone leaving campus for the day. Mercy bags are for anyone they see or meet in need of food. The mercy bags contain enough food with different items that include a good source of protein to help them last a few days. After each attendee fully decorated their glass candle holder, they continued on their blessed day.



**Shining Bright.** There was so many different options available to help participants decorate with different patterns and materials. The most favored was glitter helping give each candle holder shine bright for Candlemas.

By: Isabella Solano

# ... Diligent

# Wellness Movement

February 9, 2017

This year's Mount Physical Activity Day was a first of its kind at The Mount for both the Chalon and Doheny campus. It was transformed into a comprehensive Wellness Movement. This Movement was initiated to get students more active in not only taking care of their physical health but also their mental and emotional health with exercise to help release tension and stress. By starting the Wellness Movement the same week as Mount Physical Activity Day there was a greater spark of interest from students who went to the event. The Director of Sports and Wellness Autumn Johnson spoke on the importance of the integration of Mount Physical Activity Day and its connection to the start of the Wellness Movement. This way it helped put into effect words of inspiration into action. This Wellness Movement took place at both the Chalon and Doheny campus. This movement is possible with the help of our sponsors AMP radio, Whole Foods, and Soul Cycle; they helped with the setup and provided all the merchandise. Each sponsor along with our own departments offered examples of how a healthy lifestyle can be achieved even with the busiest

of schedules. Some of the most popular activities included Rock Climbing and Ping Pong table. Massages were offered by Counseling and Psychological Services, to help students relax as many assignments due can get in the way of reconnecting with ourselves. Many exciting things were around and available and 97.1 AMP radio was there to set the mood with on going music mixes. Towards the end of the event President Ann McElaney-Johnson and Dr. Bryant Adibe spoke about the new Wellness Movement and the Peer Wellness Advocates Program to encourage Leaders in Wellness to take action across campus. With all the information provided I say my brain has had enough exercise for today.

By: Isabella Solano

Happy to be at the top. Deanna Torres made it past the crowd and climbed her way to the top of the popular rock climbing wall.



Me pick me! Exciting games took place all around the Circle at the Chalon Campus. All encouraged guests to try something new and learn how to stay active on a daily basis.



**Food Matters.** Along with all the physical activities there was also nutritious food provided by our sponsor, Whole Foods. A few students like Gabrielle Brown inquired on the beneficial factors of food.



**Zen into the Moment.** During the Mount Physical Activity Day there were several different booth promoting wellness for a healthy physical and mental state of being.



**Break Down.** When AMP Radio DJ began playing popular tunes, Lauren Alvar showed off her moves in an epic dance battle that caught the attention of many Doheny students passing by.



**Power Within.** Yesenia Ruvalcaba joins instructors from YogaWorks and tries out some yoga exercises to relieve stress.





# Variety Show

February 25, 2017

Design: Brianna Mendez and  
Isabella Solano  
Photography: Isabella Solano



My Black is ... Inspirational, Historical and Successful. These are just a few words to describe the theme of this year's Variety Show. The African American Council of Women (AACW) hosted their fourth Annual Variety Show titled "Black is the New Black: Where the Books End and We Begin." Amber Holt, president of AACW, began the event by singing the Black National Anthem, preceding a standing ovation from the audience. This year AACW welcomed the UCLA Nigerian Student Association African Dance Team as special guests on stage. Performing alongside the team, was Angel Iwuoma, a current sophomore and a nursing student here at The Mount. Joelle Balthazar, past president of AACW, was also invited to give the introductions for each of the performances. Among the performers were Cionne Ware, Retonna Mathis, OnJonet Williams, and Amani Davis.

Performance after performance, the dancers, poets, and singers brought chills to the audience, as they relayed African American history through song, dance, and spoken word. Positive representations of Black culture were threaded throughout the show, and strengthened the central theme of "Black is the New Black" in 2017. "Midnight Train to Georgia" by Gladys Knight and the Pips and "Younger" by Seinabo Sey were among the evenings song list.

Despite the slew of powerful messages throughout the show, the finale was filled with a series of poster cards with powerful hand written messages. On each poster, read a vision of the future that we need to envision, one that involves equality and compassion, along with a solution to make it come true.

By: Stephanie Castillo and Caitlyn Keeve



**One Piece.** OnJonet Williams recites a self-written spoken word piece in traditional African attire.



**Women are the Roots.** Caitlyn Keeve and Janae Jones hold up a poster with a powerful message during the last dance performance.



**Reconnecting.** Angel Iwuoma, a current Sophomore at the Mount, is seen performing a contemporary solo with the UCLA African Dance team.



**Finale.** After being honored with flowers, members of AACW posed for the audience in a group picture. They temporarily lost their eyesight with all the flash.



**Throwback!** Glenda Holt performed her rendition of Midnight Train to Georgia by Gladys Night and The Pips.

# ... Energetic





# Mardi Gras

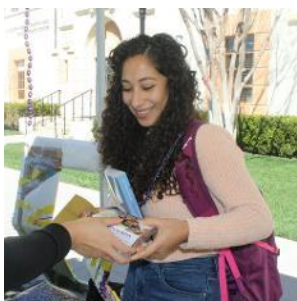
February 28, 2017

Waiting with cinnabons, brownies, and mini muffins, Campus Ministry at the Chalon campus made Fat Tuesday a little more sweeter and charitable. The Campus Ministry Assistant Director, Laura Gomez, wearing an extravagant hat offered a free beaded necklace for those who walked by on their way to class. While the other half of the Campus Ministry team, under a nicely decorated canopy, not only gave participants a sweet or two, but they reminded them of the donation bowls, more widely known as rice bowls. Rice Bowls are small boxes that the Catholic churches hand out every year to get donations for the Catholic Relief Service whose mission revolves around the commitment to help assist those in greater need than most, especially offering support to those overseas in third world countries. Faculty and Students were offered pastries as they were directed to a separate table to decorate their own mask and enjoy some jazz mixes by DJ Jun Alcantara. He played the hottest mixes that got everyone into the Mardi Gras spirit. Mardi Gras is a day to celebrate and is usually common in New Orleans in the form of a festival that is held on Shrove Tuesday. This Tuesday is used as a day of celebration and penitence and to ask for forgiveness of sins with a priest. This happens before Lent and Ash Wednesday. For those who missed going to the booth of sweets outside of the Humanities Building on the Administration Lawn, there were also some decorations set up in the Cafeteria. The Cafeteria had themed the decorations for Mardi Gras and served some good food that some would usually expect New Orleans families to cook. There was also a surprise at the end with a jester showing up to put smiles on a lot of those passing by.

By: Isabella Solano

**Beads or bust.** Participants not only got some free beads, but they also got a chance to make a mask to wear and boost their spirit.

**Picture perfect.** A nicely made frame for pictures, to take a quick photo or two was set up for students.



**Rice Bowls.** Campus Ministry set up a welcoming table of sweets and crafts for Mardi Gras.



**Yummy snacks.** Students stopped to grab snacks that were offered at the event. Snacks included cinnamon rolls and other delicacies.



**Drop the beat.** Music played by DJ Jun Alcantara played all around the Circle to put students in the Mardi Gras spirit.

**Crazy day.** With lots of smiles on Fat Tuesday, it was becoming easier for many of the participants to start their preparations for Lent.





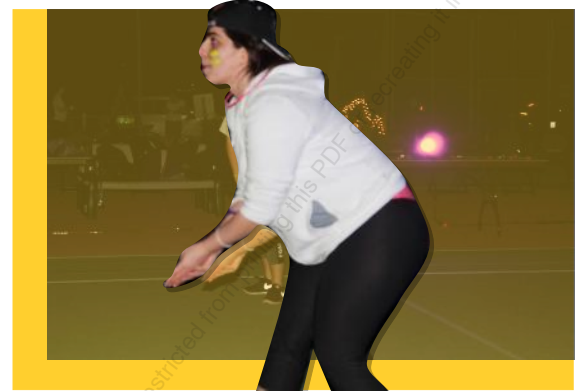
# Glow in the Dark Volleyball

Design: Isabella Solano  
Photography: Lauren Moore and Isabella Solano

March 1, 2017

Who said it was impossible to play volleyball in the dark? Well, the Mount proved them wrong! The Sports and Wellness department hosted a Glow in the Dark Volleyball event at the Mount's Fitness Center. Though it was dark, the court was ignited with glow in the dark accessories and friendly competition. Students gathered on the tennis court to engage in intense volleyball matches. Students strive to keep the neon ball in play by communicating with fellow team members to make plays. Though some students were not on the same team, the competition remained friendly.

Sports and Wellness host numerous events to encourage students to stay fit while still having fun. The Glow in the Dark Volleyball event allowed students to socialize and take part in friendly competition. At the end of the night, everyone was on the same team. Go Athenians!



**Friends in battle.** Mount students Jennifer Loza and Marianna Herrera embrace one another before the start of the event



**Helping hands.** Students lend a hand in helping each other design their sports attire

By: Lauren Moore

# Ash Wednesday

March 1, 2017

We are reminded to follow the teachings of Christ during Lent and use his words to help us overcome obstacles. Those were the words shared during the Lent Service on Wednesday morning starting the liturgical event of Lent. There were three services held to give everyone on the Chalon campus a chance to get their ashes. Two simple services to receive your ashes and one full Mass at noon at both the Chalon and Doheny campus. Everyone is reminded of what the ashes mean in terms of rebirth on this day and to reconcile with God by reflecting on how we integrate our religion into our everyday life. Toward the end of each service held, participants were also reminded about opportunities to give back to the community by helping those in need with donation through rice bowls raising money to give to the Catholic Relief Services. With all the small things changed or relinquished during Lent, there is also opportunity to help those in more desperate situations than us.



By: Isabella Solano



**Bread and blood.** Each service at both campuses had a good amount of participants who got their ashes as a sign of repentance to start Lent.



**To dust you shall return.** Guest speaker at the end of the last Ash Wednesday Mass, Diane Palmer talked about opportunities to work with the Catholic Volunteer Service.

# ... Enlightened



Ermelo Pena likes to go out with his friends, plan paintball outings, and learning to play the guitar. His life long goal is to get his BSN and RN so he can work in critical care environments specializing in pediatrics. "Shoutout to PACU and TFABM and Mak, my guitar professor."

# Men



Ethan Diego likes to play soccer, spend time with family and friends, and workout. His life goals are to repay his parents for all that they have done for him and have a family of his own.

# at the



Chris Lorenzo likes to listen to music, pray, and play on the piano. His goal is to graduate from the Nursing program in 2019 with his BSN and go to grad school to be an NP. His dream is to travel all around the world.

# Mount





**Freshmen Orientation.** Anthony Tavera and a couple of friends just received their welcome cup with a unique message from past MSMU alums.

**Slide on down.** Two of our Mount students having fun as they participate in the Athenian Day activities. He had a wonderful time watching and participating in all the great races.



**Nursing squad.** Nursing friends at the Student Involvement Fair as they hangout and participate in all the amazingly fun activities. They all participated in looking at all the booths and eating Dippin' Dots since it was a scorching day on the Chalon campus.

**Work it out.** On Athenian Day, students of all majors came together to participate in a fun competitive day. This day served as a distraction from all the heavy study course work.

**Whoop Whoop.** Participants of Mount's Got Talent included the group "Casa Boys" who sang "I Want It That Way" by The Backstreet Boys. They had the whole audience laughing and singing along with their melodies beat.

**Sing out loud.** Grant Vita performed a song with his guitar during the PACN show.

Mount Saint Mary's University is a private Catholic school that is predominantly made up of women, yet there are men who choose and trust the Mount to prepare them for their future. Most of our male students are driven by their calling to help those in need, making the world a better place, or following in the footsteps of a relative or mentor. Whatever the case may be, it is only the best that are able to join The Mount community to achieve their dream.

Although being a minority on campus, the Mount men are dedicated and motivated to bring positive change into the world, just as the women of the Mount. Ermelo Pena shares that attending the Mount is an ideal choice because, "the location is great and offers the fastest and most resourceful way to become a great nurse." Becoming a nurse, to him, gives him the opportunity to give back to his community. Ermelo also loves the Mount community because "there are only a few handful of guys, it makes it easy for people to know who I am..." but the downside of being in a predominantly all women university is "not being able to take the elevators past curfew in the girls dormitory. This forces me to take the long route which makes it impossible for me to stay dry when it is raining." Overall, Ermelo loves his school and even considers the Mount men a close knit family as he says "the men at the Mount really get to know one another due to the small male population. My friend Micalob always says, "we guys need to stick together."

By: Brianna Mendez



**Excited to eat.** Guests of Luau were eager at the sound of "Food is ready". Everyone got up and formed a line. There was rice, veggies, three meats, fruit and veggie salads, and cake! All guests were happy with the abundance of food and variety of selections.



A Luau program from the event is displayed delicately on top of the table surrounded by seashells, above a net.

**CAKE!** The event got a whole lot sweeter with this rainbow multi-layered fruit flavored cake. The guests and even the Luau members were in awe at the reveal of the cake.



**All classes unite.** During lunch time the performers and members part of Luau participated in a photo shoot. They all divided based on class level. Top left seniors, top right juniors, bottom left sophomores, bottom right freshman.

# Luau

March 18, 2017

**N**a Pua O Ka 'Aina, also known as the Hawaiian Club, hosted their 17th annual Luau. This year it was called "Me Ko'u Ho'ilina," translated to "My Legacy." With grand enthusiasm the President, Kriztel Mae Agpoon, sped back and forth making sure that the food and the performances were at their best. Kriztel is a senior this year receiving her Bachelors of Science in Nursing this May.

As the crowd made its way to the Circle, entertainment was present with sneak peeks of some of the performances taking place later on in the afternoon. With a prayer in the native tongue, food was ready for the guests. The line ran from the Circle corridor to Mary's statue. All the colors were present from salads, rice, to three different meats and desserts. Most importantly there was a celebratory cake to give light that this day is a celebration.

At 12:30p.m. members guided guests to Hannon Theater. The show began with Kriztel welcoming the audience and presenting a prelude to the story about to be witnessed.

The show began with a daughter coming back from school going to visit her grandma. Once at home she asks her grandma about the family traditions and so the storytelling begins. With the utility of a tablet the grandma begins to show her granddaughter the various dances and instruments used. With some jokes of the 21st century, the duo made the audience laugh and relate to the struggles of carrying out traditions in today's era. As well the struggle of fast and convenient wifi.

There was a display of dancers from the female and male Hula to a Tahiti dance. The use of instruments helped give the resemblance to sounds of nature and the workmanship of engineering of the Hawaiian islands people. There was a dance with the use of a ball attached to a string that would startle some guests as some performers would occasionally clash them together.

Towards the end of the show the seniors prepared a dance to symbolize their departure from the club but also the Mount. With "How Far Ill Go" playing in the background a family member from each senior stepped up and placed a lei upon them. The performance had everyone and even the performers crying of joy and sadness. The lights dimmed as performers bowed for their exit greeting. The President Kriztel Mae Agpoon and Vice President Tina D. Tran gave the closing remarks, thanked the sponsors and congratulated the performers. The show thought to appreciate the past but also embrace the future. It truly made us reflect on the legacy... Our Legacy.

By: Stephanie Castillo

**Round they go.** Performers integrated a ball technique used in the Poin ball dance done by the Maori People of New Zealand.

**Story time.** Michelle Lynn portrayed a traditional grandma conversing on tradition and culture using a little help from the current technology, wifi and tablets.

**Shake those Tail Feathers.** It's not just dried up leaves on a string. There is more to it; there is art. These girls did an amazing job displaying the passion and skill required for Hula dancing.







... Ohana

# CSJ Appreciation Week

March 19, 2017



From Sunday, March 19th to Saturday, March 29th the Mount community celebrated the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet. During CSJ Appreciation Week, the Chalon and Doheny campuses were united in recognizing the outstanding accomplishments achieved by our founders.

The week of celebration began in Mary Chapel with a special student Mass and reception. The sisters were honored by Dr. Va Lecia Adams Kellum, the President and CEO of The St. Joseph Center. Throughout the week, students presented their collaborative research project entitled, "Serving the Dear Neighbor: The CSJ Legacy of Ministry to the Homeless in Los Angeles." All students faculty and staff were asked to participate in an inter-campus food drive to assist with the Mercy Bag making event. To conclude CSJ Appreciation Week, the Carondelet Center hosted a Jubilee Mass to honor sisters celebrating milestone anniversaries.

By: Caitlyn Kieve



**Pass it on.** Samantha Herrador is seen listening to a story from Sister Teresita Espinosa before the program begins.

**Bonding!** Daisy Cruz '18 greets a Sister and share a giggle over a comment she makes.

**Support.** Dr. Va Lecia Adams Kellum President and CEO of the St. Joseph Center gives the sermon for the special CSJ Appreciation Mass at Mary Chapel.



**Inner kindness.** Audrey Soriano '17 and Sister Joan O'dwyer are seen after the Mass at the Appreciation Reception. Their leadership positions are Campus Minister and Spiritual Director of Campus Ministries, respectively.

**Amen to Service!** The Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet are raising their hands up in prayer during the CSJ Appreciation Day at Chalon. The Jubilarians were celebrated for their continued service to the Mount community over the years. Students also presented their research on housing and homelessness in the Los Angeles surrounding area.



# Job and Internship Fair

March 21, 2017

Design: Caitlyn Keeve  
Photography: Caitlyn Keeve,  
Lauren Moore, and  
Stephanie Castillo

While searching for a job, internship, or just a place to volunteer, students walked through a variety of different booths to talk to representatives to ask them who they are representing and what they do. Walking into the Campus Center, both representatives and participants checked in making their way into the event. As students walked around talking with the advocates for each program present, a diverse range of opportunities opened up. Many of the organizations and companies had nicely displayed information about who they are representing and their each individual mission to serve those in need by creating a community that inspire the younger generations to take part in greater causes.

A majority of the participants in the fair dressed confidently, certainly dressing to impress possible future employers. With the help of this nicely arranged event, students had an excellent opportunity finding a location that will give them the right experience in future fields of study they are interested in. Part of the process of a future employment depends on the education and the experience from internships. By the end of the event, students, participating and volunteering, each left with a smile on their face knowing about the wonderful opportunities that await them next semester and after graduation.

By: Isabella Solano and Brianna Mendez



**Listen to wisdom.** Eager to learn more about various of opportunities, students from every class came to plan ahead for possible future careers.



**Looking good!** Dressed just as professional as the representatives at the event, Viviana Martinez walked in with confidence and openness to all the potential opportunities.



**Let's keep in touch.** With the kindest people and so much information to understand, students were sent an email with information to how to contact all the representatives that were present at the Job and Internship Fair.

# Movie Night

March 28, 2017

Residence Life hosted their spring semester movie night. This year the students voted for *Pitch Perfect*. A lovely movie about a girl in love with DJ-ing and dreading the idea of going to college. Her dream of moving to Los Angeles soon changes when she falls in love with the hidden talent of singing! Joining the a cappella group Barden Bellas, Beca's life takes a turn of events as she makes friends, goes to competitions, and even falls in love. The Mount students that attended the event were treated with popcorn, granola bars, juice pouches, and nachos. With the windy night, everyone bundled up in blankets and sweaters. During the movie, there was laughter and plenty of singing along. Many fell victim to the irresistible group karaoke. With the excess amount of food there were seconds available, and then thirds, for everyone. At the end, everyone gave a round of applause to Residence Life for putting on a fun and entertaining event.

By: Stephanie Castillo



**Pop popin'.** A Resident Assistant, prepared popcorn to the enthusiastic residents ready to relax with a hilarious film.



**Smile and wave.** Resident girls willingly posed after the movie concluded. They were the loudest laughers of the night.



# ... Considerate

# The Report on the Women & Girls

Mount Saint Mary's sixth annual Report on the Status of Women and Girls in California was held on March 23, 2017. Hundreds of people from all across attended and learned about the challenges that women and girls are faced with in their everyday lives. The report was followed by a special Architects of Change conversation co-hosted by Maria Shriver on women and brain health. The report hosted a pair of panel discussions featuring health and wellness experts discussing the importance of physical and mental well-being. The first panel of amazing women, each with their own story to tell was moderated by Jennifer Ferro of KCRW Los Angeles. The panel included Doctors C. Noel Bairy Merz, Susan M. Love, Wendy Slusser, and Melissa Welch. The questions asked were about how to maximize women's health and what steps we, as women, can take to live a long and healthy life. Dr. Melissa Welch shared her personal experience with having a heart attack and how her symptoms went years unnoticed. For years we have been taught that heart conditions are a man's problem, but that is only because it has only been studied on men. We have to study women as well, so that we can recognize our symptoms before it is too late. Dr. Susan M. Love also shared her own experience with breast cancer and how it affected her life as a professional and a mother. The female breast is such an intricate and complex part of the human body, and it definitely needs to be studied more. The next panel was about the power of wellness, and it was



**Making a change.** President Ann McElaney-Johnson, Gwyneth Paltrow and Roberta Diaz, PhD, posed together after the Architects of Change conversation to commemorate the occasion.

moderated by Mount Saint Mary's own Assistant Professor of Health Policy and Management Bryant Adibe. The panel included Kally Dormany, Paulette Lambert R.D., C.D.E.; Tieraona Low Dog M.D., and Susan Samuelli Ph.D. They each spoke about their own experience with wellness and how it has affected their professional and personal life. Kelly Dormandy spoke about training with the LA Sparks and helping them create a healthy diet and exercise routine. Mallika Chopra spoke about being the daughter of famous well-being guru Deepak Chopra and how she handled becoming her own mentor. The event ended with an astounding and motivating report given by our own President Ann McElaney-Johnson. She astounded the crowd with statistics showing the great divide when it comes to the gender wage gap and to make matters worse the divide gets bigger for women of color. By the end of the day, everyone was left wanting to make a change in their lives, whether it be changing their eating habits or running for office.



**Success!** Founder of the Geena Davis Institute on Gender and Media, Geena Davis, and President Ann McElaney-Johnson commended each other after Davis spoke on the lack of female representation in media.



By: Patricia Arias



# Status of

Design: Patricia Arias  
Photography: Patricia Arias and  
Phillip Jordan



**Let's connect!** A group of young women connecting with one another while enjoying a complimentary breakfast before the release of the report. This was a common sight throughout the venue as many friendships and future acquaintances were being formed.



**Office reunions.** Dr. Faraah Mullings, Sister Margaret O'Rourke, Jennifer Frias, and Jocelyn Mejia from the Mount posed for the camera before walking into the auditorium and immersing themselves in knowledge.



**Ask away.** Moderator Jennifer Ferro of KCRW Los Angeles, asked C. Noel Bairy Merz M.D. about her experiences with women's health, and she informed the crowd about the lack of breast cancer studies are due to the lack of women willing to have their breasts studied.



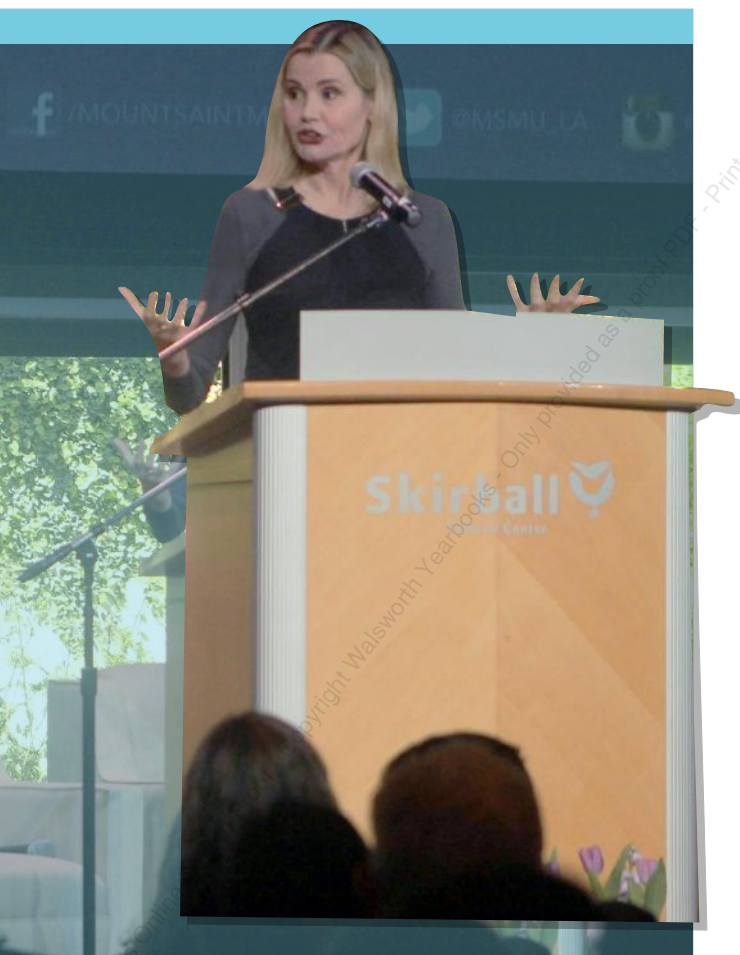
**Of sound mind.** Mallika Chopra, author of *Living with Intent: My Somewhat Messy Journey to Purpose, Peace, and Joy*, spoke about creating the book and really adopting meditation in her daily life.



**Daily routine.** Kelly Dormandy is the trainer for the LA Sparks, and she spoke about maintaining a healthy diet and exercise routine. She also brought up the idea of food portioning and how it can be easily implemented to one's daily life.

**Love your heart.** Dr. Melissa Welch captivated the crowd when she brought up her story with heart disease. She even brought tears to some eyes while she spoke about her experience and how it affected her family. Welch was told she had about 6 months left to live, but with the help of daily exercise, a healthy diet and meditation she can now say she beat that disease years ago.

**Don't be afraid.** Susan M. Love talks to the panel about the importance of getting routine breast exams. As the chief visionary of the Susan M. Love Research Foundation, she is dedicated to helping women with breast cancer causes and prevention.



# ... Resourceful

# President's Invitation to Serve

March 22, 2017

Calling all hero's! President Ann McElaney-Johnson called out to all Mount students, faculty, and staff to serve in the annual Invitation to Serve. This year there were various spots to serve; Alexandria House, Los Angeles Regional Food Bank, Puente Learning Center, Rise Against Hunger, Heal the Bay, and Society of St. Vincent de Paul. At the centers the students participating were given a private tour of the center with an on-site coordinator. They were given individual instructions on tasks to be completed to continue the vital work of their institution. Some of the locations depend on volunteers to do some of the extra work to continue using the majority of their money or funds towards people in need.

The Alexandria House is dedicated to housing homeless mothers and children to help them transition from an emergency shelter to a permanent home. They are involved in employment assistance, after school tutoring, permanent housing assistance, food pantry, and so much more. Once at the Alexandria house twelve students were split in two to complete tasks inside and outside the house. Inside the house the students were placed to organize a closet full of donated bedding accessories, pillows, towels, and sheets. Their various closets hold reserves for the new families arrive.

The group outside was placed to organize the clothes and shoes they receive from donors every week for the families that they house. They also use some of the clothes to sell in the thrift store they hold every weekend to make profit to aid the families. The mission of help continued in the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank. There students separated the expired food and placed the good food in boxes to pack. This boxes go to families in need and are distributed throughout the Los Angeles region through schools, churches, and care centers. With the music playing in the background the work flow was smooth and everyone was having a great time. Each place of service are the key to a better city and life. Thanks to the many student from the Mount that volunteered their time and Saturday morning these care centers or places of aid are able to continue to function towards those in need.

By Stephanie Castillo

**Listening.** The director of the Alexandria House instructs the students with the assignment.



**Get to Work!** Students get to emptying the closet that has been stuffed and unorganized.



**This is cute.** Making sure that the age group and clothing item are in the right pile is crucial to ensure that correct items go to the right future guest.

**Nurturing.** The Alexandria House is located in Koreatown. Its mission is to respond to the needs of women and children moving from emergency shelter to permanent housing.



**Rounding them Up.** Marquita Juarez is the Student Ambassador in charge of guiding and keeping role call of all the girls present. Here she is posing with half the volunteering group.



**Giving Back.** New and old friends pose for a moment as they organize clothing items donated to Alexandria house. From shoes, purses, baby bibs, etc... it is important to keep everything separated to make it easier to find when it is needed.



**Food for all.** The food bank is located in South Los Angeles. Surrounded by factories, this bank serves the Los Angeles community by provided food boxes to low-income families.



**For the Cause.** Lauren Lomeli, Carsie Mendoza, and Gloria Perea pose for a quick memory. At the Food Bank the students were placed to work on checking the expiration dates of food products to make sure that the families are getting fresh food items.



**Packing and stacking.** Graduate student aids in closing the packaged boxes and stacks them in formation to clear wrap them.







# ... Humanitarians

# Pilipino American Culture Night

April 1, 2017

Every year, Pangkat Pilipino, Mount Saint Mary's Filipino Club, puts on a show that includes a play, traditional and modern Filipino dances, and songs. Before the show, guests were treated to a traditional Filipino dinner. This year's show was called Kilusang Panlaban. Kilusang Panlaban tells the story of a resistance movement in the Philippines. It is a story of struggle, hope and love. Bayani Santos, played by Richmond Vinluan, leads the resistance and strives to defeat Detino, played by Joshua De Guzman, and The Superyors to bring back peace in the Philippines. Detino, a corrupt military leader, takes control of the Philippines only to purify the country, get rid of and place the poor and non-Christians in concentration camps. The Muslims are in hiding. The Igorot, native people of the mountains, have been forced out of their homelands and into the north. Czarina Castillo, played by Neecole Espinueva, is on the run to reunite with her dear sister, Tala. She is saved by Bayani and his friends and taken back to their hideout. The audience immediately loved the developing relationship between Bayani and Czarina. The show made the audience laugh and put them on the edge of their seats. Jokes and even medical terms were thrown in throughout the play. In the end, Bayani and his friends, Kilusang Panlaban are able to defeat Detino, save Tala and others but losing Czarina in the process. The first dance performance of the night was "Sayaw Sa Bangko", performed by couples on a narrow bench as they danced and jumped from one bench to another. The audience was impressed with seeing the male dancers flip their partners in the air while balancing on a bench that was on top of another bench. Aside from traditional dances, performers also expressed their style through modern dances. Songs were performed that help drive the story of Kilusang Panlaban and express the emotions of certain characters. Not only did Kilusang Panlaban showcase everyone's talent but it also helped teach the audience about the Filipino culture. PACN is a wonderful experience that brings everyone together and makes everyone feel like a one big family.

By: Heaven Mella



**Songbird.** Richmond Vinluan, as Bayani Santos, sings his heart out to "Go the Distance" and expresses his emotions about Czarina through the song.



**Sayaw Sa Bangko.** Performed on top of a bench. Dancers need good balance as they go through a series of movements that include some impressive acrobatics.



**Tinikling.** Inspired by the movement of tikling birds walking between grass stems and dodging bamboo traps set by rice farmers, the dancers move between bamboo poles with grace and quick feet.







**Asik.** Allison Mayol, Ashley Corral and Kristina Torres perform a maiden dance to win the favor of the sultan master.

**Ragragsakan.** The dancers balance baskets on their heads as they perform this dance in celebration of the return of headhunters and successful peace pacts between rival groups.



**Modern Dance.** A free, expressive style of dancing that includes technique and improvisation. Modern dance became a big part of the Pilipino-American culture and community to tell their own stories of their joys and struggles.



**Safe Haven.** Bayani Santos, played by Richmond Vinluan, reassures Czarina that every thing will be alright. He tells her will keep her safe and help her get her sister back from the Superyors.

**Time to fight.** The Resistance are ambushed by the Superyors and both groups battle each other.



**The drama!** Czarina Castillo, played by Neecole Espinueva, has an awful run in with Detino, played by Josh De Guzman, and the Superyors. Detino orders Czarina to betray and kill Bayani Santos and lead the resistance into a trap in order to see her sister again

... Fierce

# Senior Farewell Dinner

April 5, 2017

As the year comes to an end, it is that time where we say good-bye to our seniors with our yearly tradition of the Farewell Dinner. As the evening began, the departing seniors gathered with friends and enjoyed capturing the moment with photos at sunset. Once let inside and seated at the tables, many seniors had their moment of realization that the end is near. As nerves crept up for the departure to our next step in life President Ann McElaney-Johnson, gave the young women some inspirational words to live by and recall when she reminded the class that they should "never apologize for having a different opinion," to never "underestimate who you are," and "to never doubt that you have the ability to overcome adversity." As seniors reflected on these words, they looked around to appreciate the women and individuals who have gotten them to where they stand today. As part of tradition, a nominated faculty member is chosen to speak to the departing class. This year, Professor Robin Owens gave an inspiring speech regarding the importance of appreciating all the opportunities that present themselves and to always achieve the best you can because you have the ability to do so. Professor Owens also shared what has been her motivator from the beginning which started with her hardworking mother, who despite graduating top of her high school class was unable to go to college because of financial difficulties, so she was determined to give her children the opportunity. These words gave students some time to reflect with the idea of remembering the people who came before us to give later generations the opportunities they have today.

By: Isela R. Torres



**Alma Mater.** Leah Fajardo recites the alma mater oath as she prepares to leave the Mount and embark on a new endeavor.

**Flowers for a friend.** Joelle Balthazar gives Dr. Robin Owens a small gift of gratitude as she is this year's faculty speaker.



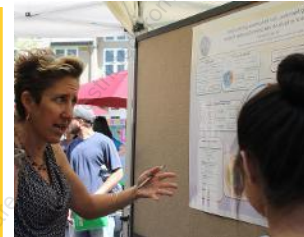
**Moving speech.** Dr. Ann McElaney-Johnson gives a moving speech to the Class of 2017. She made it known that our message is to be powerful women saying, "You are smart and you know how to think, you have to share that knowledge."

**One last time!** Amy Sobejko, Natalie Resendiz, Bobbi Rodriguez, and Marielle Shrock pose for a quick picture to remember the night.



# Academic Symposium

April 6, 2017



**Professor speaking.** As students gathered outside in the Rose Hills Patio they were able to learn more about the topics being presented by faculty like Professor Jennifer Chotiner, who talked about the over all academic schedule for students taking class at the University.



**Student engagement.** Student presenters also described on going research, they were conducting at the University and at other research facilities to be able to full help participants unfamiliar with their filed of study understand what they are researching about. Just like Rahia Solomon engaging her audience in her current research with amino acids.

With a bright and energetic start to the day, students came from both campuses to Doheny for The Academic Symposium held on the first floor of Ahmanson Weingart Hall. The Academic Symposium started at eleven thirty in the morning and finished at three forty in the afternoon. The event consisted of both oral and poster presentations, each on different researched topics related to both liberal and scientific studies. Each presentation had a set time slot to share the research that they gathered for full classrooms, almost lining out of the door. During the first hour of the event there were back to back oral presentations in each classroom on the first floor, talking about detailed topics in each academic field of learning with topics like, *The Effect of Oregano Extract on E. Coli* an going study in the science of health to larger community efforts like *Activism Without Words: Decoding the Musical Style of Argentine Protest Songs*, making a difference in the life of those looking for justice and fairness in their lives. Soon after, there were oral presentations outside in the Rose Hills Patio giving participants a change in scenery and easier access to presentations given by different student and

faculty presenters. Even though it was impossible to go to every presentation, there was a lot of effort put in by each presenter with well investigated studies that they were eager to share to however many students could listen. The rest of the event continued in the same manner as students came in and out of classrooms choosing what presentation they should go to next, if not already assigned to participate in one. Whether the reason that those who attended the event was only for an assigned project for a class or to support fellow peers, all those who attended gained the priceless gift of knowledge from each proposed subject presented.

By: Isabella Solano

## ... Educated

# Spring Carnival

April 6, 2017



**Smile big!** AMP Radio DJ takes a photo of Cristina Gallego Chair of Student Activity Council and Jessica Farell Vice President of Administration pose for a picture in front of the AMP Radio backdrop, which makes for a great Instagram picture.

**Slip n' Slide.** Carsie Mendoza takes advantage of the sliding bounce machine

Music played and laughter was prevalent in this year's Spring Carnival. Students socialized while listening to AMP Radio DJ's mix of top hits. Bright colored paper mache lanterns and decorative flowers hung all around and gave the carnival a joyful and fresh look which everyone seemed to enjoy. Free food provided by the Mounts own food services was offered to all who attended. The food offered included a choice of hot dogs, burgers and sides included corn and salad. Games and raffles kept everyone entertained. A giant inflatable jumper took over half of the Administration Lawn and students were immediately intrigued as they walked out of the Humanities and Administration buildings. A game of Cornhole took place next to the inflatable jumper. Booths were set up all around the Circle with different informational pamphlets and cards. Junior resident Julia Vanella describes this event as one of her favorites because "you can definitely see all the hard work people put into this event and what a big turnout it becomes every year." Julia also mentions that her favorite part of the event was "hanging out with all my friends and creating great memories with all of them."

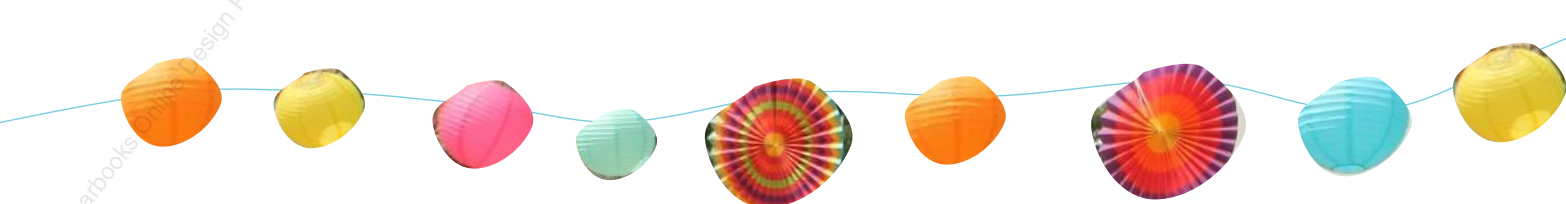
By: Brianna Mendez and Patricia Arias



**Food for all!** Food Services provided hot dogs and various sides to all who attended. Hot dogs are a staple at any carnival.

**Spin the Wheel.** Students played at the booths and won various prizes. Enterprise car rentals had a spinning wheel that kept many entertained.

**Getting to know you.** Friends gathered at the tables provided to eat, listen to music, and interact. This table in particular had 3 different groups of friends getting to know one another.





# Admitted Students Day

April 9, 2017, April 23, 2017



## Chalon

Chairs lined the Circle for the day's many families and prospective students.

Phi Alpha Delta Pre-Law Fraternity in the Circle.

Natalie Gayles and Aleisa Legita posing during club fair.



On the early Sunday morning of April 9th, the Mount welcomed its newest prospective students to the Chalon campus. Filled with excitement and butterflies in their stomachs, hundreds of parents walked the hallways a few steps behind their eager students. The morning started off with a welcome speech from University President Dr. Anne McLaney-Johnson. Accompanied by perfect spring weather and the Five Pillars of Distinction at her side, she stood behind a podium and addressed the Class of 2021 in the Circle. After being assured that Mount Saint Mary's University will prove to be an academically rigorous and spiritually nurturing environment, the crowd dispersed to witness one of the many department presentations in the Humanities Building. From Women's Leadership and Student Involvement to Language and Culture, each department presented their history of student success and strategic plans for the continuity of scholarship and mentorship in the future. After lunch, our prospective students and their families were treated to a performance by Nā Pua O Ka 'Aina, the Hawaiian Dance group on campus. The day concluded with a club fair in the Circle. There, organizations like Phi Alpha Delta introduced the guests to campus culture and student life. We look forward to welcoming the Class of 2021 in the Fall!

By: Caitlyn Keeve



## Doheny



Welcome all! Karla Guardado-Segura, Angela Gonzalez, and Assistant Director of Student Programming and Commuter Services, Jennifer Frias, welcome a prospective student to their booth.

Hail Athena! Athena has descended down from the heavens to pep up the incoming class. April 23, 2017 marked the day of the Admitted Students to Doheny and to greet them all were the offices of the Mount. Along with the students came the parents. The students were nervous and so were their parents. To facilitate the transition and answer unanswered

questions the Mount coordinated a day full of workshops. Each workshop supplied parents with knowledge of the different activities, offices and places to become familiar with.

One of the top questions asked by many parents was safety. Their little babies are leaving home and safety is a must, so Campus Security set up a specialized workshop to answer all the protocol's taking place on campus. Safety is the Mount's top priority especially being near a highly populated area. Admitted Students Day provided an exceptional opportunity for admitted students and their families to explore the Mount and all that it has to offer.

By: Heaven Mella

# ... Spontaneous

# Who Is Stressed?

April 10, 2017

Stress is a hard ship. Constantly around us, it is difficult to manage it all and avoid it. The "Who is Stressed?" event, was hosted by Spring 2017 Student Management Seminar Class. It was ten minutes before the doors opened and a crowd was already present. Within minutes, the auditorium was filled. Present to the event was President Ann McElaney-Johnson and several other invitees.

To kick off the event Aimee Clayton gave the introduction and presented President Ann McElaney-Johnson for some words on the importance of wellness. Afterwards, she invited the guest of the night Dr. Horton up to the stage to talk about the book he wrote and about the tips in managing stress.

There is good stress and there is bad stress. Good stress is what we need to keep us motivated and moving to achieve great tasks, but then there is bad stress that can lead to physical and mental problems. When someone develops mental problems, that person may become a highlight in our lives that can lead to physical problems. One solution to solve mental problems is to backtrack on our prime objective in the current moment.

When sidetracks happen there is low productivity. It is hard to not take work home, but it can be possible with practice, as well as keeping in mind that the current place you are in needs you and should hold your full undivided attention.

To wrap the seminar up, the moderator asked Dr. Horton a couple of unanswered questions. Finally, the raffle prizes were given out along with the announcement of free food. Everyone was a winner that night with a free goodie bag to relieve stress, especially with finals just around the corner.

By Stephanie Castillo



**Stepping into new beginnings.** Before beginning the event with the main speaker, President Ann McElaney-Johnson gave a few words on the importance of having a wellness program at school and how the future construction of the wellness pavilion will bring to light the improvement in life style of many future students who come to Mount Saint Mary's University.



**Spotlight!** After Dr. Horton gave his talk on the stress in our everyday life and the difference between temporary stress, he was interviewed by the audience thereafter.



**Tick Tock Tick Tock.** The Business department hosted a wellness event as a senior project. It discussed the impact of stress and how to keep it in healthy levels.



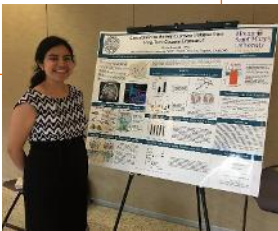
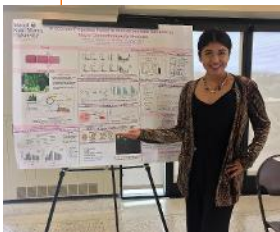
**Awaiting Answers.** Students attending the event entertained each other in small talk while waiting for the event to commence.



# Senior Seminar

April 11, 2017

Design: Brianna Mendez and  
Isabella Solano  
Photography: Isabella Solano  
and Stephanie Castillo

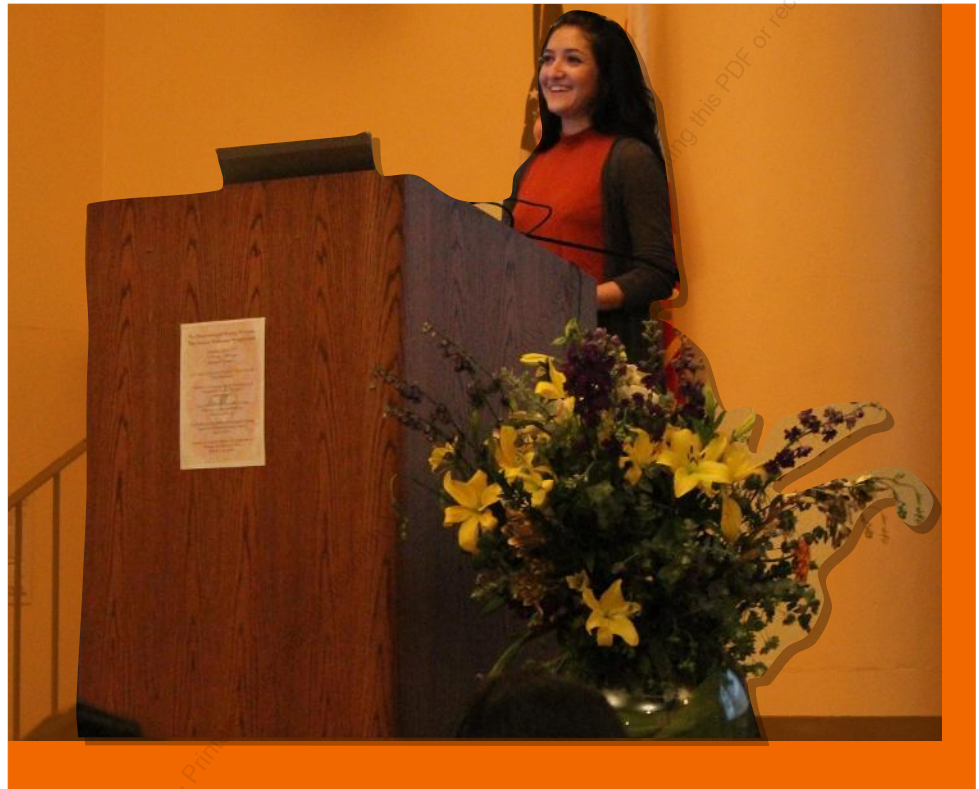


**Bald and bare.** Keisha Manning talks to a student on the possible solutions for treatment of baldness through the use of Panax Ginseng versus Minoxidil.

**How much CRISPR can you get.** Sandra Segura presents on the use of CRISPR to aid in fixing the DNA strands that code for Huntington disease and myotonic dystrophy.

**Leaf of Hope** Kristen A. Fregoso present on the possibility of Annona Muricata can lead to chemotherapeutic products. Annona muricata is a broadleaf, flowering, evergreen tree which gives the fruit Soursop.

**White Lines.** Maria Arechiga introduced research evidence of mGluR1 as a key to prevent relapse from long term cocaine exposure.



**S**cience, Lights, Research! As the year comes to an end and another senior year to a close, the Biological Science department hosts their Senior seminar. The seminar is part of their senior year project where they relay to an audience the topic of their choice. From CRISPR to zombies, many found an opportunity to discuss a topic that is near and dear to them or have at least affected them once in their lives. The audience consisted of several freshman and sophomores.

The Seminar was split into five days, and it was amazing. Prior to the presentation, students had to complete a report on the topic chosen and following it they designed a poster. Two of the students presented on the topic CRISPR (Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats), which can be programmed to target specific stretches of genetic code and to edit DNA at precise locations. The research from Sandra Segura was on the use of CRISPR to help modify the DNA of Alzheimer's disease. CRISPR is a cheap product to buy, but the procedure is the costly one that keep many away from using. So far it has only been used in cell cultures, but it has yet to move on to animal and human trials. There is controversy in the use since it may be used in military warfare.

At the end of each presentation there was a five minute question and answer session. Here, the students and professors had the opportunity to test their knowledge on their subject.

By: Stephanie Castillo

## ... Determined



**Crafty are we.** Participants stuffed socks and knotted them to make a stress relieving heat pack. Perfect for those late nights when you need to relax sore muscles.

**Trippy.** A fun table for making kaleidoscopes with personally designed tubes made the event all the more exciting.

**Feed us!** Students lined up to receive a few snacks to help them energize for the day.

# De-Stress Day

April 18, 2017

**W**ork. School. Assignments. Due dates. Exams. Pop quiz. late nights. Friends. Family. With so much to do it can drive anyone mad. Through our wellness initiative it is the time of the year where a day is dedicated to de-stressing. This year the school invited animal services to come and bring their pets that are up for adoption. There were guinea pigs, dogs, cats, and more cats. As well there was a section in the Circle for arts and crafts. Students were able to make stress socks. Grab a sock, a clean one of course and fill it with small beads, tie a knot and Presto! You have a sock that you can squeeze in times of high stress and anxiety. It can even be used during an exam.

All the students had loads of fun. While petting the animals several were joined with friends to share some laughter and cuteness. The dogs were pampered, fed and even walked around the Circle.

Another activity available was to make your own oil aromatherapy. With scentless lotion, oil concentrate was added and mixed. Some students mixed several oils to get the max peace through aroma. The power is theirs.

Several snacks were provided to those who delay in eating due to exams. Some have already started taking and studying for finals. Just around the corner many look forward to summer and the many new adventures life has in store for each and every one of us. Destress day was a success. In the end of the day everyone who attended held the biggest smile. Peace.

By Stephanie Castillo



**Doggy Play Time.** Chinako Belanger took a moment away from the desk to pet and comfort with a puppy from the shelter.

**It's so Tiny!** Kittens, hamsters, and dogs bringing smiles with their wagging tails, excited to meet new people.

**Peace and Love.** Sophie Quach and friend shared a moment of peace from all the studying for nursing courses to pet a kitten.

**Kittens rule the world.** Mary Safaeipour, biochemistry major, who is on the verge of graduating needed all the stress relief she could get, and why not with some cute kitties.



# Study Jams

April 19, 2017



**Who is the Winner?** Marielle Shrock and Jennifer Morgan prepare to raffle out a bluetooth speaker and many cool Mount gear to those that signed into the event.

**Gotta Catch them Quick.** The White Rabbit Food Truck is a major hit with the students as many approach with curiosity and excitement to try the Filipino fusion food.

**Yellow Hotness.** Hubert's Lemonade was a major sponsor of the event as they provided free lemonade to all that approached their booth. It came in handy too with the bright and sunny day.

**So Colorful.** Student gathered at the arts and crafts table to entertain in some multi-colored scratch paper. This was a great activity that played a major role in the de-stress aspect of the event.



Jammin' was alive in the Circle! The Mount community gathered in front of the Administration Lawn for some smooth alternative songs from The Beginners, a Los Angeles based band that started its debut in 2013. They provided the entertainment of the afternoon as students laid with complimentary blankets provided by the Student Programming and Commuter Services office to relax and study. With finals around the corner and classes coming to an end it was Student Programming and Commuter Services goal to bring relaxation and fun to The Mount. There were arts and craft activities with multicolored scratch art. An event is not complete without any food so for Study Jam SPCS invited The White Rabbit food truck on campus to provide lunch meals for free to the first 100 students. The White Rabbit serves Filipino fusion food. Originally from Los Angeles a group of friends noticed lack of Filipino food representation and so with a few home recipes from their childhood they started to make a menu and so on July 10, 2010 the White Rabbit was born. The

specialty they are known for is the giant 6 pound burrito with chicken, pork, 6 eggs, jalapenos, and rice. Along for the jam came Hubert's Lemonade which sponsored Mount Saint Mary's University and provided free lemonade to everyone. After several songs the program coordinator Jennifer Morgan called out raffle numbers for the winner of a bluetooth speaker. The majority of the students after the event were happy and felt like they lifted stress from their chest and mind. Jennifer, in the name of SPCS, thanked everyone for attending and wished all good luck in classes and finals

By: Stephanie Castillo

## ... Rockin'



# Athenian Awards

April 19, 2017

"Great achievement is usually born of great sacrifice, and is never the result of selfishness" -Napoleon Hill. Women's Leadership and Student Involvement hosted the annual Athenian Awards. This event celebrated the achievements of young women at Mount Saint Mary's University during the school year. The event was opened with a welcome speech to remember from the Mount's president, Dr. Ann McElaney-Johnson. The president congratulated students on their success and encouraged them to continue to strive for excellence. Students smiled and shared hugs with the president and received certificates as an acknowledgment of their hard work and dedication. Following the welcome, the newly appointed Student Government Association Executive Board was introduced and won an award. Department Awards were also given to students who demonstrated excellence throughout the school year. The evening was full of laughs and admiration. Students received the opportunity to reminisce on their achievements over refreshments. The evening honored those who exhibit leadership within the Mount community. The Athenian Awards showcased unstoppable women within the Mount community.

By: Lauren Moore



**Oh so shiny.** Executive board members and former president, Joelle Balthazar, of AACW hold a plaque of recognition for organization of the year.

**Leaders All Around.** Winners of various awards gather around for a group photo.

**Friends.** Recipients Caitlyn Reeves and Angel Iwuana smile together before receiving their certificates.



**Squad Game Strong.** The 2016-2017 cabinet pose to commemorate the end of a great year with many accomplishments and successes. This is the incoming 2017-2018 SGA cabinet

- President: Rebecca Sandoval
- Executive Vice President: Sabrina Orellana
- Vice President of Administration: Michella Mousaed
- General Senators: Anastasiya Tereshchenkov and Angel Iwuoma
- Doheny Senator: Abigail Cowo
- Resident Senator: Arlene Valdes



# Spring Sing

April 20, 2017

Design: Patricia Arias,  
Stephanie Castillo  
Photography: Lauren  
Morore, Stephanie  
Castillo, Philip Jordan



**L**a La La!!! Angels were singing in the Doheny Mansion. With quiet steps, the Mount Chorus and Therese Fassnacht, Associate Professor/Department Chair of Music, made their way to the center of the mansion ball room. This year, the event was named No Ways Tired: A Choral music for women's voices that celebrates the power of persistence and community. With the group ready to commence, they started off the performance with Lo Yisa Goia from the Hebrew Round following was the Psallite Superi from the Convent Manuscript, 1642.

At this time, the soloist, Julia Johnson from the Chorus stepped up to the front and sang Aure Volante from Francesca Caccini. She took the audience by surprise as she hit a high note that made the windows vibrate. She so strongly inspired the audience that she was met with great applause. The next piece, *Malala*, was dedicated to an extravagant human being that has been loved by the world for her bravery, intelligence and charisma. This inspired that in times of sadness, words of wisdom can inspire us all to move forward and not be afraid to

speak our mind and to always reach for the stars. Tricia Solomon read out to the audience part of a speech from Malala over a song performed by Joan Szymko. In between the versus, you could hear Malala speak to the audience, giving us hope and prosperity.

Later on, the performer Paola Castillo, flutist, played "Be like a bird" by Abbie Bettinis and "Amazing Grace" by Stephen Hatfield. Both the sweet bird-like melody of the flute and the heavenly voices of the chorus seemed interchangeable. Both were smooth, relaxing and soothing to hear, yet powerful. Paola took up the flute in fourth grade and obtained a strong passion starting high school. She thanks her journey of success to her parents who have never failed to attend her concerts. Cronne Ware and Julia Johnson continued on to perform "Will the Circle be Unbroken" by J. David Moore and two other pieces. Therese Fassnacht congratulated the seniors of the group: Tania Ramirez, Adriana Ramirez, and Tricia Solomon.

The night and life was peaceful for all the families and friends that assisted the event but none could have been possible without a key member of the Chorus Vicente Ditto, the pianist. Vicente received his bachelors in music from the University of Rochester. He is staff accompanist in the music department at Mount Saint Mary's University. He coaches major and minor and plays in ensembles.

Fassnacht and the Chorus wrapped things up with "And Ain't I A Woman" by Susan Borwick. The song talked about the strength of woman and the belief that we can do anything we set our mind to do. No matter the circumstance or the restrictions, we are woman, and we are powerful. As the group repeated in a gradient tone the final versus, they made their way to exit stage. With great joy and admiration, the crowd rose for a standing ovation for the Mount Chorus.

By: Stephanie Castillo

## ... Inspirational



**Squad Goals.** The 2016-17 Chorus group stood for a special photoshoot before the performance to save the memory for a lifetime.

**The Elite.** The Sopranos and flutist pose for a quick shot in front of the Doheny Mansion. Each has worked hard and long for this performance, and all have an individual piece for the show.



**UpFront.** Our Foreign Exchange student Chen Huang takes center stage with other sopranos to they sing.



**Is that a Bird?** ... No, it's Paola Castillo, a flutist in the Mount Chorus. She is currently a freshman at The Mount and is pursuing a degree in Music.



**Makes it seem Easy.** Vicente Ditto is a pianist that is active at Mount Saint Mary's University. He has performed at various chorus programs and other solo events.

# Earth Day

April 20, 2017



Earth Day is celebrated worldwide, but here at The Mount, we made sure to make it a very special event. Different departments and clubs set up their tables informing students on a specific subject relating to conservation and preservation of the earth. Food Services had one of the most colorful set ups and students really took interest in it. They had flyers with ways to "upcycle" your veggies and leftovers instead of throwing them away. They offered samples of two different salads created by "upcycling" their fruits and veggies; one featured Kale and the other Broccoli. The table for environmental Science featured the many different ways that products are wasted and mistreated. They spoke about stopping animal testing in cosmetics, the amount of water that is wasted producing cotton products, and the advantages of replacing most products we use now-a-days with hemp products. There was also a petition to end the use of plastic straws in the schools cafeteria to help reduce the amount of plastic that goes into our oceans and are ingested by our wildlife. Jacqueline Lima and Joey Tamayo held a raffle for students who wrote down why recycling was important. They also had bins where students could drop off empty cartridges and electronics to be recycled properly. Another informational table was that of the Garden Committee, who had a live display of how the polar ice caps are affected by global warming and pollution. They also advocated for veganism and vegetarianism with informational pamphlets about the advantages of eliminating animal products from one's diet. By the end of the event, students left with a new mindset of the importance of helping protect the Earth since we only have one.

By: Patricia Arias



**Upcycle, recycle.** Food Services held a table in which it discussed the break down of major plants like kernels from corn. As well ways in which we may do our part to decrease food waste situations.

**Food scratch goodness.** Part of the food services team, Nerluz Aguilera, spoke about the importance of decreasing food waste on our campus and the process by which we prevent food waste.



**Dangerous food.** Stephanie Espejo and Aliya Malabanan stop at one of the booths that taught ways contamination is spreading in our food products.

**No to Animal Testing.** With the huge demand in products from makeup to medical advancements it is difficult to stop and think that lives are being taken away in the process.



# Laurel Day

April 20, 2017

Design: Brianna Mendez  
Photography: Heaven Mella



Originating in 1974, the Laurel Awards is a ceremony that honors the achievements of students in the traditional undergraduate Associate in Arts program. The day of the ceremony, students are recognized for their outstanding performance in academics, leadership, and community service. Students are nominated by peers, faculty or staff who think that their hard work and dedication to The Mount should not go unrecognized. On April 20th, several students and their families attended the end-of-the-year celebration and received a small token of appreciation and certificates for their dedication and commitment on-and-off campus. The ceremony opened up with a prayer and student leaders bringing in candles to represent the light of their leadership. Students were honored by academic departments for their great achievements in different areas. Campus Ministry Awards were given to a few students in Campus Ministry. The Laurel Wreath were bestowed on students who displayed leadership in various involvement opportunities on campus like Student Activities Council, the Student Government Association, Phi Theta Kappa and other organizations. The Laurel Circle recognized students who have become an active leader in campus life during their first and second years at the Doheny Campus. Susan Cacique who received a Laurel Wreath, Achievement in Psychology and in Community Service, and a Laurel Award for Community Service, shared a few words of her thoughts about the ceremony: "This has only motivated me to continue helping others and striving for the absolute best. I love that Mount Saint Mary's takes the time to recognize all students and our achievements." The ceremony ended with a prayer blessing the students who were awarded, transitioning and graduating.

By: Heaven Mella



**Super Star** Veronica Martinez, the Director of Institute for Student Academic Enrichment, presented Daisy Zambrano with the Institute for Student Academic Enrichment award.



**Reaching for the Stars** This group of ladies received recognition for obtaining and maintaining a high GPA throughout the 2016-2017 academic year.



**Moving on Up** These ladies were recognized for their contribution to the community and their academic standing.



**She's grace.** Karen Lemus was one of the few students given the Sr. Maria Angela Mesa Award for facing great personal challenges with grace, courage, and perseverance while earning her degree during her time at the Mount.



**A leader amongst many.** Sabrina Orellana is given the Estelle Doheny Award for her leadership, service and significant contribution in her time at The Mount.

## ... Undaunted

# Senior Bravo

## Banquet

April 21, 2017

Fine dining at the Doheny Mansion led to an evening filled with joy and happiness. Almost everyone brought a plus one to share this marvelous celebration. Everyone took this time to catch up or discuss future plans, but mostly it was a time to bring an end to a year of hard work and dedication.

The reception began with a mariachi band playing some of the Hispanic classics and, with the upbeat music, everyone was in tune swaying from side to side. Veronica Martinez, director of ISAE, commenced the program with a welcome and introduction of BA 2010 alumni, Estrella Ramirez-Robles. At a young age Professor Estrella took up the role of a mother to her younger siblings. She cleaned, cooked, showered her siblings and went to school all at the age of 12. Her mother fell sick during this time and was unable to do anything but lay in bed. Her father was the bread winner of the house and upheld three employments to pay the hospital bills. Once in high school though she was needed at home she still found time to hold various sport and activities at school. From band to track and field she did it all and graduated with honors from high school. Once she transitioned to Mount Saint Mary's College her new challenge was to commute and get an employment. Half way through her mother fell capture to a bad mistress, cancer. Her father now had to be more active in the hospital alongside her mother, meaning she became the main bread winner of the home. Full time employee, full time mom, full time student and still highly involved at school through SAC, clubs, and sports. She graduated from the Mount with the highest honor.

With the death of her mother she fell in deep depression. This depression led her to a drinking problem. It incremented to the worst that she was involved in an automobile accident. Afterwards she turned her life around by working three jobs and loving life. As a remembrance that her mother is there all the time, she carries her ashes in a necklace. The lesson she gave to all the seniors present was, 'In life you will fail and that is fine, just always remember to get up and keep on going.' Many stood up to show their support and many with moms hugged them tight.

Continuing with the program Veronica Martinez presented Afriana Ramirez a Pre-law student who had the honor of presenting Helen Boutrous, PhD. with the Faculty of the Year award. Professor Boutrous talked about the importance of establishing and keeping connections. This year the Baccalaureate Program Speaker was Estafani Alarcon. Estafani has had some rural beginnings being an immigrant. That has not stopped her from achieving her dreams. She is also a first generation college student and will become the first in her family to graduate college this coming May. With her strong voice and heart, she spoke words of encouragement to all and wished everyone a great future and career after college. In closing, President Ann McElaney-Johnson gave some remarks on the event and congratulated everyone on their achievements and accomplishment. Dr. Jane Lingua, Vice President of Student Affairs, gave a blessing for everyone on their journey home.



**Mother-daughter duo.** Marianna Herrera proud to share her I.S.A.E. recognition with her mother. I.S.A.E. provided completion certificates to all the members of I.S.A.E.



**The award winners.** The girls pose with roses given out by the I.S.A.E. staff in appreciation to their dedication to the office and the mission of I.S.A.E.



**VIP Table.** President Ann McElaney-Johnson sits with professors and faculty that were an impact in the four year lives of ISAE members.

By: Stephanie Castillo



# Mary's Day

April 22, 2017

In ideal California weather and overlooking the Pacific Ocean, Mount students who represented the spirit of Mary in their everyday actions, received an honorary ceremony. Held in the Campus Center at the Chalon campus, the room filled with students, faculty, and family to congratulate all those being honored with a variety of awards. Departments gave out awards to office employees and there were also awards given based on votes from the whole student body. Graduating Seniors received as well special recognition apart from their primary awards given. Once the awards were given to all the listed winners from each department, guests were asked to proceed to the Circle for the Crowning of Mary.



**Smile from ear to ear.** As seniors said their final goodbye, they also posed for some final pictures with President Ann McLaney-Johnson.



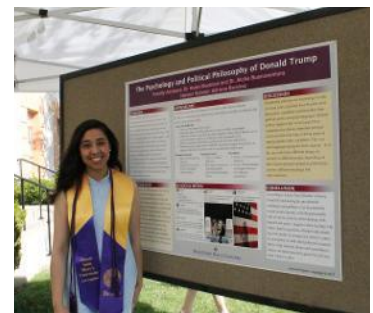
**Flowers for our mother.** Before awards were given there was a special dance performed and flowers placed over a picture of the Virgin Mary.



Once participants all gathered in the Circle, they were each given a flower from a variety like lilies, roses, daisies, and many other kinds. As each guest was asked to hold a flower, Campus Ministry Assistant Director Laura Gomez sang "Ave Maria". As "Ave Maria" was being sung, there was a reflective and compassionate mood that settled over the audience listening to the prayerful lyrics to The Virgin Mary asking for her intercession in our lives. Once the audience was quiet, President Ann McLaney-Johnson and Dr. Robert Perrins gave a few words for the reason of crowning the Mary statue on such a calm day. The Presidents Award winners were then asked to pass up the flower crown and place it on Mary, completing the Mary's Day ceremony. Once the crown was placed on Mary, students posed for their families as they took photos to remember this special day. To finish the day, each senior who wrote a final thesis presented them to guests who came in hopes that they will enlighten others at the Mount.

By: Isabella Solano

**Senior Thesis.** With refreshments, good company, and a beautiful day, seniors with completed thesis presented to everyone interested. From a range of topic that included both how they feel the government is not working as well to what is not happening when people immigrate to the United States.



# ... Exceptional

# Mount Weekender

Time to take a breather? Everyone wants to but not many know how. Well, Student Programming and Commuter Services (SPCS) took a historical step towards changing the lives of many Mount students. In partnership with Sports and Wellness, on March 3rd to March 5th of 2017 Mount Weekender was brought to life as the first weekend program. Mount Weekender as told by Dr. Faraah Mulling is, "designed to enhance the experiential learning experience of commuter and resident students." Currently exclusive to women of the Mount, this weekend experience helped women gain awareness of the development of habits of wellness and preservation of beauty by exposing them to the grandness of Yosemite National Park.

While on the trip, students were greeted with warm weather and ushered home by a winter snow storm. The team was able to explore many wonderful landmarks within the park. They all lounged in beautiful cabins at Half Dome Village. There was a tour of the Yosemite Valley Floor which gave them the opportunity to explore Yosemite and learn about the history of the park. Some of the most stunning views included Sentinel Rock, Cathedral Rock and Bridalveil Fall at the Tunnel View.

Many yummy snacks and three meals a day were provided by SPCS. For breakfast, they ate at the Half Dome Village Pavilion where there was a variety of choices from pancakes and eggs to oatmeal and bagels. For lunch and dinner, the team ate at the Yosemite Lodge Food Court with the option of hamburgers from the grill to sandwiches and salads.



**Feeling the Moment.** Caitlyn Keeve is captured in the gaze of astonishment at the majestic views at Yosemite National Park and the surrounding mountains.



**Reaching Great widths.** Director of Sports and Wellness, Autumn Johnson explains the amazing growth of a forest tree through her own arm span length.

**Catching the falling stars.** In the midst of heading home the Mount women are hit with a snow storm. A great way to release tension with a friendly snow ball fight.



**Can't Cut it Down!** Aileen Fernandez, Karla Guardado-Segura, Jennifer Lopez, Karen Gomez are ready to initiate the save the trees protest.

**Stress free Selfie!** Estefani Alarcon coordinates a selfie with the women on the trip to save a memory of their trip together.



**Home Sweet Home.** At Half Dome Village the women got to experience the simple life far from the busy/noisy city life of Los Angeles.

All the girls had happy full bellies throughout the entire trip. Athina Cuevas, Graduate Intern of SPCS stated she, "was astonished by the beauty of the park," and had, "never imagined such a jewel exists in California."

Many of the girls used this time to reflect on themselves and on what they need to be happy. Many chose to let go of the negativity in their life and regained focus. Some meditated at the park and some just took in the scenery. For some students, this was their first experience being away from home for the first time. Karla Guardado-Segura, '18, shared that she, "learned it is okay to make a decision to go somewhere by yourself, and the process of getting to know other students is worth the fear of trying to exit the protective turtle shell I usually hide in."

When asked if they would recommend this trip to other women, Caitlyn Keeve, '20, expressed she, "would definitely encourage others to apply for Mount Weekender," because the Mount's, "dedication to enhancing our knowledge about wellness and sustainability could be beneficial to every student." In the end, all the girls had a positive and profound experience. They were able to get in tune with their inner emotions to better understand their surroundings. This trip will be remembered as a major highlight in their years here at the Mount.

By: Stephanie Castillo



# Eggstravaganza

Design: Patricia Arias,  
Heaven Mella  
Photography: Heaven  
Mella, Dr. Faraah  
Mullings

April 25, 2017



What's more fun than an egg hunt, making friends with a few furry animals and getting a massage in between classes? On an unseasonably windy Tuesday, the Doheny Campus was lively with Easter festivities. Anyone could stop by and participate before heading to class or hang out after class. There was a table for crafts available in the hallway of the Rose Hills. Students were able to make their own kaleidoscope, head band, aromatherapy heating pads, and decorate foam hearts. Student clubs gave out Easter eggs filled with candies and inspirational quotes to get students through the rest of the semester. On top of that, the Easter bunny came to visit the campus and handed out Easter eggs. Throughout the event, students participated on the hunt for the golden egg. Clues were given and the prize was a fifty dollar gift card. Everyone also enjoyed yummy food from the food truck.

Moreover, massages were available outside. Undergraduate Business major student, Viviana Martinez commented what it was like getting her massage: "Although it was very windy, with my eyes closed, the noise of the trees and wind sounded like waves crashing, and it felt like I was at the beach for ten minutes." Students were able to relieve their stress by cuddling with the animals from the animal shelter. There were baby kittens, hamsters and dogs. In spite the fact that the event occurred a week after Easter, the season of Easter happens for seven weeks. The Mount community wanted to continue to celebrate Easter and give every one a fun way to de-stress and enjoy a day outside. It was an 'egg-citing' day!

By: Heaven Mella



**Hoppin' down the trail.** Brenda Martinez dressed as the Easter Bunny arrived and Viviana Martinez and Jocelyn Velasquez were excited to get an Easter egg and find out what kind of surprise was inside.

**Love that scent.** Lindsay Connors, Assistant Director of Sports and Wellness, shows Sister Joan Mary ODwyer of Campus Ministry, how to make aromatherapy heating pads out of essential oils, rice and a brand new sock.

**Bowl of sweets!** Everyone enjoyed yummy peep fruit kabobs, made by Campus Ministry, during spiritual happy hour.

... **Clever**

# Health Expo

April 26, 2017

After the launch of the Wellness Movement, a new initiative introduced to students this year, the theme of promoting wellness continued for the staff as well. Free massages along with sustainable made giveaways were provided to each staff member who was looking to relax before the demands of finals week approached. Information on medical and dental care plans were also available to those interested. In an effort to promote healthy eating choices and active lifestyles, the Health Expo encouraged University faculty and staff to take fruits and vegetables from the colorful and interactive display. These resources presented the University's unsung heroes with resources to take care of their minds and bodies before the summer season. This event truly spread the theme of self-care across the campus and helped close out the school year in a positive way!

By: Caitlyn Kieve



# Denim Day

April 26, 2017



**Our Voice Means Something.** Lucero and Valeria Quiroz write their thoughts on whiteboards to show their support for prevention against sexual violence.

On Denim Day, a pair of jeans is a way to protest. Jeans became an international symbol of protest in 1999 when a decision made by Italian Supreme Court rejected a rape case because it concluded that the jeans of the victim were too tight for the attacker to remove without the help of the victim. The Court expressed that the victim could have helped her attacker remove her pants which meant consent was given. As a protest, women of the Italian parliament wore jeans the following day. Students at the Mount wore denim to show their support for rape prevention education and survivors of sexual violence. Jeans were worn as a message to the entire community to engage and take leadership on this issue. Many students donated their denim jeans and made a promise to take action against sexual violence. It was a day of recognition that sexual violence is everyone's issue as well as a day of support for survivors and participation in conversation.

By: Heaven Mella

**The tension within.** A staff member is seen enjoying a back massage during a break from the loads of tasks due.

**The more we know.** Resources were given the faculty and students on health care and its benefits.



**Solidarity.** Students signed and decorated paper cutouts of pants and hung them up on a string to raise awareness.





# I am ... Film Festival

April 27, 2017

I am ... is the topic for this years Film Festival. The video projects ranged in a series of topics from punk to politics, all content was admired. Physical art pieces were displayed outside of the Hannon Auditorium for all to see before the program and during the intermission. The artist, Nicole Mendoza, displayed her love of photography through her unfiltered, unedited images. Nicole is a freshman striving towards Child Development degree. Estefani Alarcon showcased pictures she took while studying away in New York. Each artist had their own flare and angle to their art or photography. The intermission featured delicious food along with a variety of refreshments to those who attended the event.

After the intermission, two students presented their emotions and viewpoints in life and social aspects through poetry. Marilyn Araya's poem revolved around her growth in the city and the perception of fashion based on the color of the skin. "Man with the yellow hair" was an interpretive piece directed towards our current president. It relayed certain common questions asked by many Americans especially those with immigrant families. The end of the event led to a question session with the two poets, the photographers and painter along with Professor Haggard, the advisor of the Film Club. Estefani Alarcon facilitated the Q&A session. Most of the artist spoke on the confidence build up through their art. As well as the awareness they are trying to spread to others to reduce the ignorance and increase action for change. The awakening was refreshing and amusing to know they all became stronger through the Mount faculty.

By: Stephanie Castillo



**Tight Group.** Marilyn Araya, Khirsty Randles, Dr. Haggard, Film department, Jessica Flores, Estefani Alarcon, Nicole pose after the event to commemorate the unity in the Film group and special guest, graduate Khirsty Randles.



**United in words.** Students Sign the I am ... sign before entering. This sign was posted outside of the Hannon Theater to inspire women of the Mount to believe in something greater.

**Wall of Greatness.** The Film club designed the Hannon Theater wall to hold some art of Mount Women.



**Cityscape.** Estefani Alarcon showcases some of her inspiration shots that reminded her of the meaning and feeling of New York City during her study abroad travel.



Design: Stephanie Castillo  
Photography: Stephanie Castillo, Caitlyn Keeve, and Heaven Mella

... Woke



**Warm Touch.** As the guests who attended the Mass stepped outside the church to gather with those being confirmed, they got to stretch their legs and enjoy the nice cloudless day with a nice breeze to keep cool.

**Keep Calm and Control On.** Campus Minister Gail Gresser, both Assistant Directors Gaile Krause and Laura Gomez, Student Affairs Assistant to the Vice President Valerie Bonilla, Assistant Director of Student Affairs Maryann Nguyen, and students involved with Campus Ministry helped organize the crowd.

**Cheese!** There were bright smiles and proud faces throughout the ceremony as those being confirmed excitedly processed in with their sponsors to finish their final step to commit themselves to the Catholic faith.



# Confirmation

April 29, 2017



**One in faith.** There was no part of the church that was not used by those being confirmed as they walked in and out of the church for each step of the Mass. Newly confirmed, they were blessed with not only Holy Water but with Holy Chrism Oil to seal their acceptance of the gift of the Holy Spirit.

**Teamwork.** With the help of Bishop Sylvester Ryan nineteen young women were newly confirmed into the Catholic Church to practice its faith and carry on its traditions to future generations.

**Gratitude.** After the ceremony, each newly confirmed took a picture with Bishop Sylvester Ryan with bright smiles.



Blessed those be that enter the kingdom of God with grace and admiration.' On April 29, 2017 a few committed young ladies received the sacrament of confirmation on the Chalon campus at Mount Saint Mary's University. The significance of receiving this sacred sacrament is to mark the final step in receiving the full blessing of God and being a fully committed member of the Catholic Church. The processes that these women had gone through involved not only meeting every Sunday afternoon of the year but going on a very personal and enlightening assisted retreat with the Sisters in the Carondelet Center. With the help of the Sisters, the Campus Ministry team on both campuses and confirmation leader Alejandra Angel, these women were able to discover God and incorporate him more into their everyday lives.

After all the preparation that went into being confirmed, the day finally came for each participant and their sponsor to attend their first Mass in which they would fully received the entire holy trinity. Something that was commenced in Baptism and nourished in Holy Eucharist is now confirmed through the knowledge of the word of God and the belief in the Catholic church. As each participant being confirmed walked up to Bishop Sylvester Ryan with their sponsor during the Mass, they said their selected saint name out loud and accepted their commitment to the church with an amen. After each newly confirmed participant was anointed with chrism oil by the Bishop, they shared the the blessing by taking oil from their forehead to place on those who attended the Mass, witnessing their ceremonial entrance into the Catholic church.

By: Stephanie Castillo and Isabella Solano





# TEDx MSMU

May 3, 2017

Design: Brianna Mendez and Isela R. Torres  
Photography: Campus Ministry  
and Isela R. Torres



Lights, Camera, TEDx! Mount Saint Mary's University hosted its first TEDx talk event. This is a mile stone once again for The Mount and a stepping stone for those who spoke. In the TEDx event, students and faculty spoke on specific topics dear to them. With the Hannon Theater, packed the event was ready to commence. The first talk of the night was from OnJonet Williams. Her entrance was powerful and resonated with the audience with her expressive Poetry. She spoke on fears and the abuse she encountered in her life and her eventual perseverance. She became a stronger person when she arrived to The Mount. Through her poetry, she has been able to open up to develop trust and relationships with others.

The word Unstoppable was the emphasis of the night as each speaker proved that no outcome is impossible. Each segment was full of inspiration, motivation, tearful eyes, anger and passion.

Caitlyn Keeve was a standout when it came to her knowledgeable and confident presentation. She was one of the few participants that did not use any type of aid to her speech. In short, her talk was impeccable. Keeve

spoke from her knowledge and heart. Concise and clear she spoke on her experience on Mount Weekender, a trip hosted by the Student Programming and Commuter Services department. This was the first year an event like this was hosted. She emphasized the importance of introspection where one reflects on the self than on other people, especially since most of the time we neglect ourselves to aid others. She also spoke on the image of Wonder Woman and the idealization she carries even though her standards are actually unattainable. We should strive to become comfortable with who we are in the moment rather than on something that is impossible.

Professor Haggard spoke on her journey starting from her education. At The Mount she is an instructor in Film, Media and Communication. She received a Ph.D. in American Studies from Saint Louis University and a BA, in American Studies and Ethnicity: Cultural and Intellectual Life from University of Southern California. During her education, her life was heavily influenced by the Sisters as she lived with them for a brief time. Her talk focused on why media matters, especially within the representations of interracial couples. An example she discussed was a cheerios commercial where there is an interracial couple with a child discussing the facts on the health benefits of Cheerios. She noted that this commercial was a simple and positive example of an interracial family, yet it received so much harsh feedback, the comment section had to be removed. In her research, she found that many react negatively to representations of interracial couples because it is not commonly represented in a positive light or as an everyday way of life. We must change this in order to better represent and respect all. With so much information, it was hard to take in everything that was shared on that night, but all the talks created future moments of reflection and action. At the end, all the participants were met with resounding cheers, and attendees expressed their excitement of next year's TEDx. Indeed, we are truly unstoppable!



**Speak to be heard.** OnJonet Williams read a poem on her story in life, and painful journey of silence.

**Watch Me Grow.** At the conclusion of the event, the speakers of the night posed together to capture the moment that will stand as a highlight in their life while at The Mount.

**Woman + Science = Progress.** Sue Turjman turned this event to a variety talk as she brought in the Science. She spoke on the effects of CRISPR and possible future directions in the research.

By: Stephanie Castillo

## ... Visionaries

# Commuters



Shuttles, buses, trains, bikes and on foot is how commuter students travel to Mount Saint Mary's University. Navigating classes and traffic, lives of commuters are a little busier and sometimes harder. Commuter students have more hectic schedules since work and commuting to school consumes a significant amount of time. However, the commuter students at Mount Saint Mary's University are not procrastinators; they are self-motivated and dedicated enough to load up their tap cards or cars and take the bus or drive to campus every day, rain or shine. They come early to class and sometimes stay on campus really late. You can spot commuter students studying, hanging out, eating a snack or maybe even taking a nap before class on the lounge chairs of the Rose Hills Patio at the Doheny campus or the Student Lounge at the Chalon campus. Yet having to travel to school does not stop commuter students from getting involved. There are many commuter students involved in clubs and organizations on campus. Moreover, there are many events throughout the year solely for commuters so that they can have a chance to connect with other students and feel appreciated by The Mount.

With a large commuter population, The Mount tailors its offerings accordingly. Fortunately, The Mount offers more than basics to commuters. Services like temporary lockers are available for commuters so that they do not have to carry their heavy textbooks all the time. The Student Programming and Commuter Services department (SPCS), provides resources and support to commuters that helps them with time management and study skills. SPCS has a Commuter Mentor Program which aids first-year commuter students socially and academically by pairing them up with an upper class commuter student leader who serves as a mentor and resource by connecting mentees to the many resources and services available on and off campus. Incoming first year students can also attend the Commuter Retreat to connect with upperclassmen commuter student leaders and get tips on how to make the transition to college, get involved and be successful as a student. The SPCS office also host events like Commuter Appreciation Day and Commuter Socials to help commuters feel more connected to campus life. Many Mount Saint Mary's commuters can testify that hitting the road at the crack of dawn to beat traffic, spending a long time searching for a parking spot, getting to class on time and fitting their distant work life around school is a test of endurance, but students at The Mount are not called unstoppable for nothing!

By: Heaven Mella



**Commuter Appreciation.** Commuter students got free food and bags of goodies to thank them for their commitment and contribution to the Mount community.

**Let's Chill.** Commuter students interact and socialize with one another as they have ice cream after a week of midterms and color to de-stress during their break in between class.

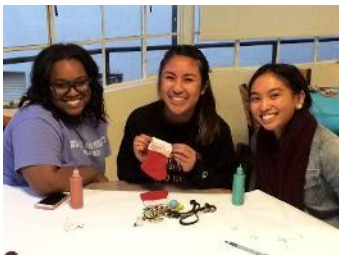
**Suns Up Empty Stomach?** Breakfast is the most important meal of the day. Commuters got to enjoy free breakfast provided by Student Programming and Commuter Services at the Doheny Student Lounge.

**The Peak.** With the school year coming to an end, final exams approach. What better way to be prepared than to have the right tools to complete any final. Baggies with pencils, erasers, and scantron were given out to the commuters.

**Ice Cream Cookie!** Student Programming and Commuter Services gave out Diddy Riese to the first one hundred commuters.



# Residents



**Getting into the Season.** Amber Holt and friends hang out making miniature stockings that could be filled with candy provided by residence life.

**Free Taco Tuesday.** During the appreciation dinner Nursing students are caught in the action of consuming delicious tacos. During the event there was also a pinata and a variety of candy, including a sweet DJ mix in the background.



**The Bridge of support.** Resident Assistant's pose in a group photo during finals week showing their appreciation and support to all the residents of Chalon. With exams around the corner the tension can get to anyone.

Waking up with minutes to spare before class and having a hot and fresh breakfast ready to eat in an instant, are two things to be grateful for as a resident at Mount Saint Mary's University. With everything within a two minute walk, being late to a lecture is a thing of the past! At both the Chalon and Doheny campuses, residents can take advantage of the many amenities offered all year long. The most popular luxury that students love to enjoy, are the various lounges housed on several floors of the residence halls. Fully furnished with couches, televisions, study tables, and even a working pool table, the lounges provide a quiet space for students who are in need of a study-break or a study-session.

Also unique to residents, are the convenient laundry facilities and the Residence Desk, that provide necessities like cleaning supplies, testing materials, and a variety of snacks during the day and into the night. For those who find themselves missing home or in need of a little cheer, Residence Life hosts a variety of much anticipated and fun events for students who live on campus. Ranging from Harry Potter Movie Nights to T-shirt design contests, there are always outlets to meet new people and get creative! The Student Programming and Commuter Services office also coordinates a number of Resident Appreciation celebrations, that honor the residents with frozen yogurt, cookies, and free giveaways!

By: Caitlyn Keeve

... United

# Commencement Mass

May 8, 2017

It was a day unlike any other, the sun was shining bright and the 2017 graduates were preparing for an amazing day ahead. Commencement Mass is held early in the morning the day of graduation to celebrate the Catholic faith of many MSMU graduates. This celebration includes a morning Mass for all of the graduates and their family members and friends. Graduates line up at the Doheny gates at 8:45a.m. and wait for the gates to open. They start walking towards St. Vincent de Paul Church as kids from MSMU's Child Development Center cheer them on with bells and ribbons. The Class of 2017 walked proudly down the sidewalk as cars passed honking in celebration. Student Government Association President, Melanie Sava, led the line while holding the cross all the way to the church.

The Mass started off with a word from MSMU's own President, Dr. Ann McElaney-Johnson and then was presided by Msgr. Clement Connolly. During the Homily, Msgr. Clement Connolly gave the Class of 2017 and everyone in attendance a word of advice for the future, "In times like today where everyone is arguing about left and right we should all practice love from the heart, which is a little bit to the left." Everyone in the church broke out in a quiet laugh in response to the connection that he had made. After that the communion was given and the traditional lighting of the candles by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet took place. At this moment, the Class of 2017 was given time to reflect back on their Mount journey and give thanks for all of their blessings. Attendees were asked to raise their hands over the graduates and recite the Graduate prayer. The Class of 2017 then walked out of the church to meet with their family and friends who came to show support and excitement for their future graduates. Many of them received flower necklaces and gifts and took pictures to commemorate the special moment. Up next, Graduation!

By: Patricia Arias



**Holy Road.** SGA president, Melanie Sava had the honor of carrying the cross and leading the Class of 2017 to St. Vincent de Paul Church to begin the graduation festivities.



**Head High.** 2017 graduates are all smiles as they walk towards the church where their friends and family await.



**Open Ears Open Minds.** Fr. Guillermo Garcia reads the gospel proclamation in Spanish for our Spanish speaking guests.

**Body and Blood.** Msgr. Clement Connolly and Fr. George O'Brien present the communion rite and asks guests to come up and be part of the communion blessing no matter what belief they hold.

**Runs in the Blood.** Neda Bravo-Leal along side her mother walked down the aisle to give the father the offering of the blood of Christ for the communion.

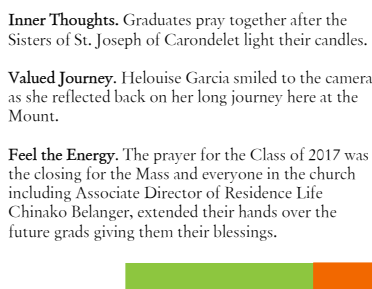


**The Lord at Her Side.** Msgr. Clement Connolly gives a future graduate her communion and blesses her for the road ahead.



**Spirituality.** St. Vincent de Paul Church was filled with excited future grads and family members.





**Proud Family.** Jessica Flores and her aunt share a moment together after the graduation Mass.

**Blessed Selfie.** A group of MSMU graduate friends pose together for pictures before leaving to be celebrated by their families.



**She Did It!** Marisol Delgado is all smiles as she walks out of the church and is greeted by her family and friends.



... Blessed





# Commencement

May 8, 2017

The day had finally arrived! After years of dedication and sleepless nights, the Class of 2017 finally walked the stage and received their college degree. Students showed up in their best attire ready to take over the stage and make their families proud. The celebration took place at a different location this year: The Microsoft Theater in downtown, Los Angeles. The graduation of the Class of 2017 was truly unlike any other.

Everyone arrived at the theater by 2:00p.m. and waited for guests to be seated. The Class of 2017 was patiently getting ready behind the theater as they groomed themselves for last minute touch-ups and walked up to their designated line according to their major. President Ann McElaney-Johnson welcomed everyone and introduced the recipients of the Carondelet Medal, Judith R. McDonald, before introducing the Class of 2017 Commencement Speaker, Farah Pandith.

Farah Pandith is a diplomatic entrepreneur, foreign policy strategist and author. She spoke to the Class of 2017 about her journey as an Indian-American minority here in the United States and how we have the power to fight for those who are voiceless. She also mentioned a video in which she saw Sister

Margaret talk about her path to becoming a nun. Farah Pandith was inspired by Sister Margaret's decision to not be a possession and instead became free by using her voice; she followed her dreams and lived her story authentically. Farah Pandith used this story to inspire each person to live their own story as powerfully and authentically as they can and to use their voice to help make a change. Everyone in the theater clapped loud for her as she congratulated the Class of 2017.

Soon after, the graduates walked the stage to receive their diplomas. Smiles and cheers were all around and some even shed some tears. Families roared in celebration as their graduate walked the stage. Suzanne Hoffman '84 then welcomed the Class of 2017 into the Alumnae Association and President Ann McElaney-Johnson took the podium and asked the Class of 2017 to stand and formally signify their graduation by moving the tassel to the left and reminded them that the heart is on the left side and that is where Mount Saint Mary's University will always be to each and every graduate. Congratulations to the Class of 2017!

By Patricia Arias





**How's my hair?** Sayana Hallal gets her last minute touches before heading out with the rest of the class of 2017.

Design: Patricia Arias  
Photography: Isabella Solano  
and Phillip Jordan



**Standing Tall.** Child Development and Business majors pose in line as they arrived early to the ceremony to assure they are in the right spot.

**Lining up.** Weary students sit on the floor as they wait for the ceremony to start as they are ready in the designated area of their major.



**Peek-a-boo.** Jennifer Loza and her friend play around as they wait for graduation to begin.

**Calming the nerves.** Future graduates group together to talk about how nervous and excited they are to walk the stage.



**Let's take a selfie.** Beverly Herrera Flores surprised President Ann McElaney-Johnson with a selfie after receiving her degree.

**With gratitude.** Raquel R. Javier accepts her degree with a smile from ear to ear as her family cheers her on.

**Raise the Roof.** Kelly Araujo waves her hands up proud to her family as she crosses the stage to receive her degree in Biochemistry from President Ann McElaney-Johnson.



**Leading by example.** Commencement speaker Farah Pandith receives an honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters for holding an ideology consistent with the university's mission.

**Speaking with purpose.** Farah Pandith spoke to the Class of 2017 about the importance of embracing differences and listening to their voices and making positive changes in the community.

# ... Graduated



Abrams, Jordan Ciara  
Ali Imani  
Political Science



Agpoon, Kriztel  
Nursing



Akopyan, Maria  
Psychology



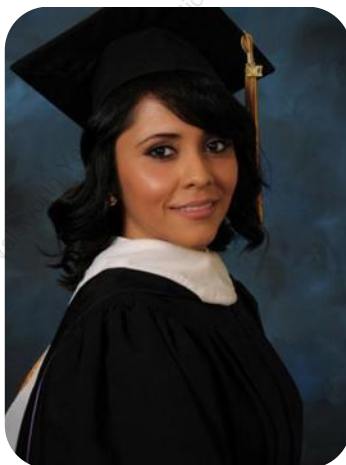
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Film, Media and Social  
Justice



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Amado, Genna  
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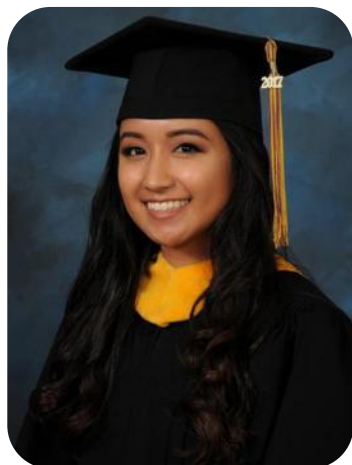
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Biology

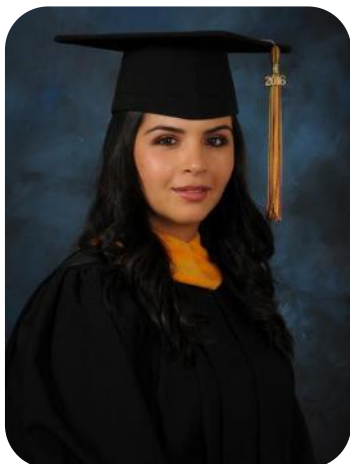


Arevalo, Denisse  
Spanish



Arroyo, Alyssa Rei  
Sociology





Avila Del Real, Janeth  
Nursing



Avina, Antonia  
Nursing



Ayala, Jessica  
Nursing



Bactad, Mara  
Nursing



Balboa, Crystal  
Social Work



Balthazar, Joelle Leslie  
Psychology



Barajas, Darlyn Dianna  
Business Administration



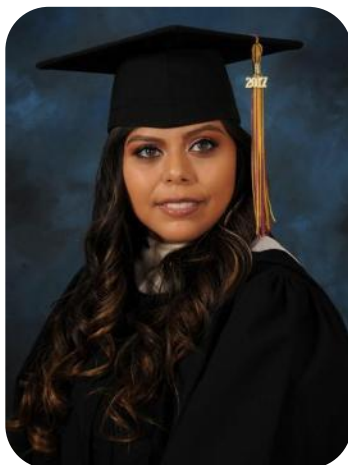
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Biochemistry



Batz, Estela  
Business Administration



Berganza, Kelsey  
Psychology



Bernal, Melanie  
Psychology



Bernardino, Jarren  
Nursing



Bonilla, Lea  
Political Science



Bradley, Amber  
Sociology



Brown, Cristal  
Sociology



Cantor, Taryn  
English



Capisanan, Lance Aldrich  
Nursing



Caro, Erica  
Nursing



Carrillo, Phylizia  
Political Science



Castaneda Gallegos, Cynthia  
Sociology



Castanon, Marisa  
Sociology



Castellort, Marie  
Nursing



Castillo, Alyssa Marie  
Biochemistry



Castillo, Stephanie  
Chemistry





Castanos, Claribel  
Psychology



Cerros, Gladys  
Child Development



Chavez, Lynnette  
Nursing



Cisneros, Maria  
Mathematics



Clay, Atasha Brianna  
Psychology



Clayton, Aimee Jacqueline  
Business Administration



Collins, Katelynn  
Education



Cruz, Marlen  
Sociology



Dan, Tali  
Sociology



De La Rosa, Jazmine  
Psychology



De Guzman, Joshua  
Nursing



Delorosa, Teresa  
Sociology



Delgado, Celina  
Psychology



Delgado, Marisol  
Biology



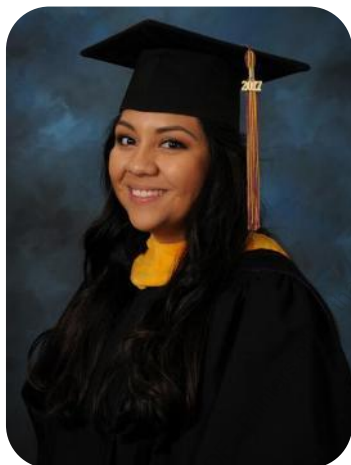
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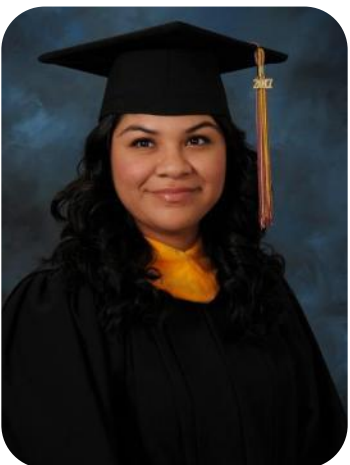
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Film, Media, and Social  
Justice and English



Farrell, Jessica  
Child Development



Ferrer, Angeline  
Nursing



Fierro, Marialice  
Nursing



Flores, Beverly  
Sociology





Flores, Jessica  
Journalism



Fowlds, Taryn  
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Gallego, Cristina  
Pedraza  
Psychology



Garcia, Adrianna  
Film and Media



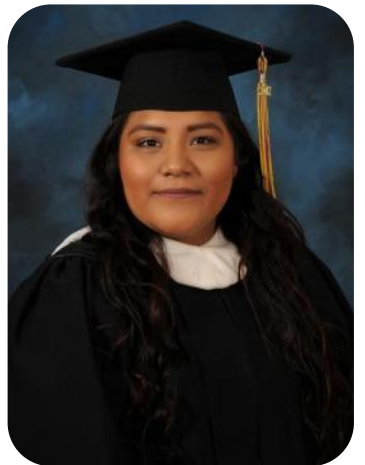
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Studies



Garcia, Jasmine  
Biology



Garcia, Stephanie  
Business Administration



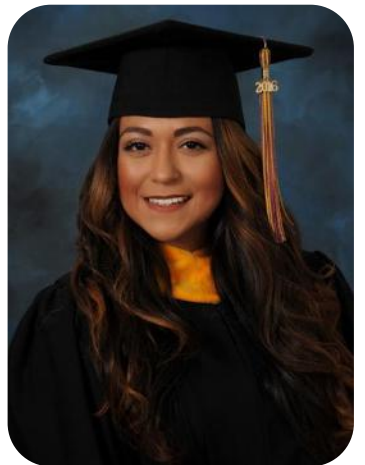
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Genato, Chloe  
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Gomez, Gladys  
Psychology



Gonzalez, Vanessa  
Nursing



Guardado, Keiry  
Business Accounting



Guerrero, Krystina  
Social Work



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Nursing



Guillo, Nicole  
Nursing



Gutierrez, Alexandria  
Sociology



Guzman, Nelly  
Sociology



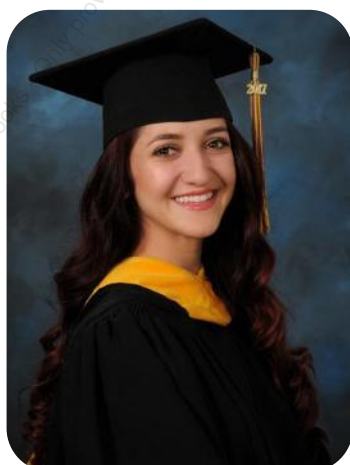
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Nursing



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Child Development



Hernandez, Lizbeth  
Social Work



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Biology



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Child Development



Herrera, Celene  
Business Administration





Herrera, Marianna  
Sociology



Hipolito, Joyance Paulee  
de Villa  
Nursing



Hita, Georgiana Irene  
Psychology



Hofilena, Bryan  
Nursing



Holguin, Brandie  
Sociology



Jamorabon, Jana  
Sociology



Jauregui, Juliette  
Biochemistry



Johnson, Eerijah D.  
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Jones, Sydnei Clarke Symone  
Political Science and  
Philosophy



Kehnt, Jessica  
Healthcare Policy



Laurel, Sharmaine Faye  
Nursing



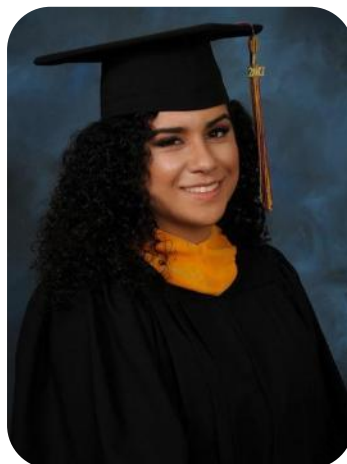
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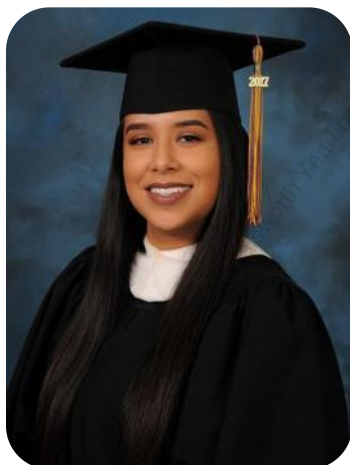
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Loza, Jennifer  
Criminology



Luna, Margarita  
Nursing





Luong, Diana  
Business Administration



Macias, Guadalupe  
Psychology



Macias, Shelly  
Criminology



Magbitang, Anastashia  
Healthcare Policy



Maldonado, Elizabeth  
Healthcare Policy



Mandap, Denise-Aira  
Nursing



Manimtim, Nagela  
Nursing



Marcelo, Catherine  
Nursing



Marcelo, Nathaniel  
Nursing



Martel, Yesenia  
Social Work



Martinez, Cynthia  
Monserrat  
Business Administration



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Sociology



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Sociology



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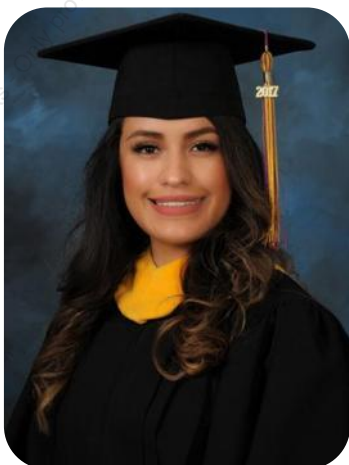
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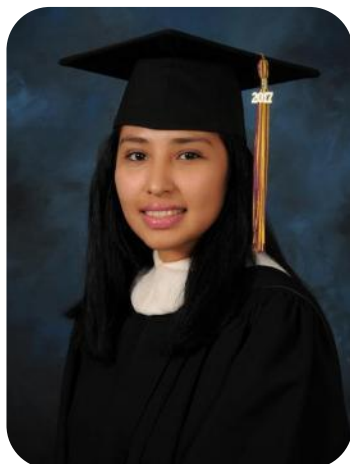


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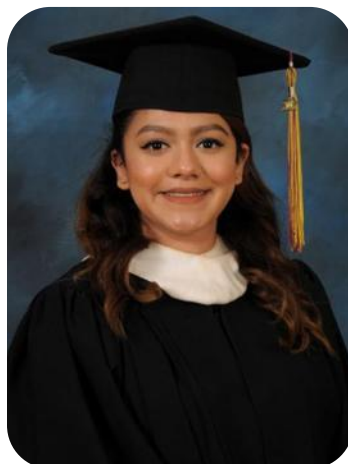




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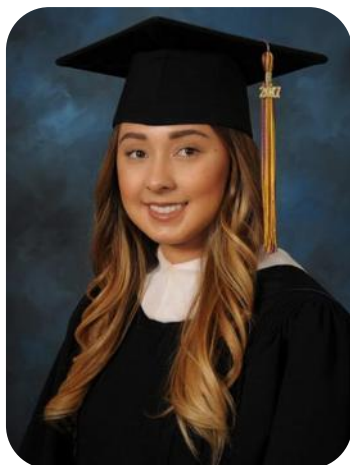
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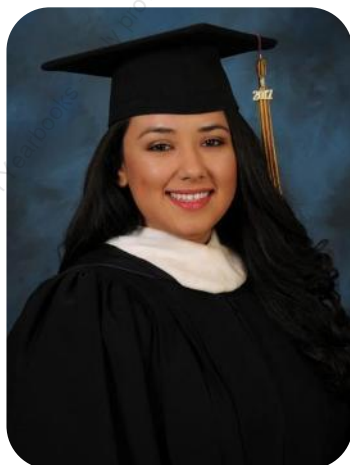
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Nursing



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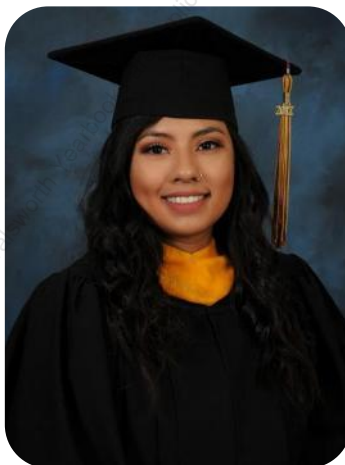
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Reyes, Claudia Vanessa  
Sociology and History



Reyes, Vercia  
Political Science



Rios, Alexandra  
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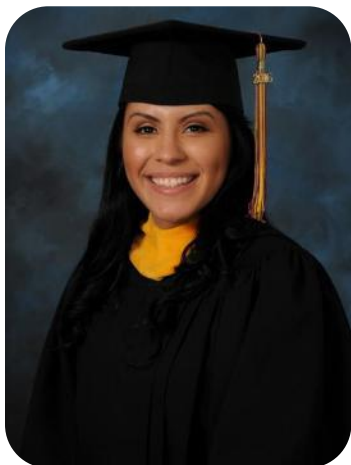
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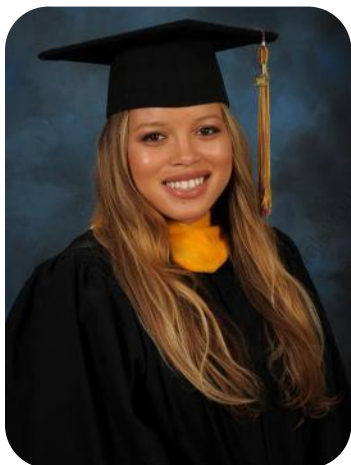
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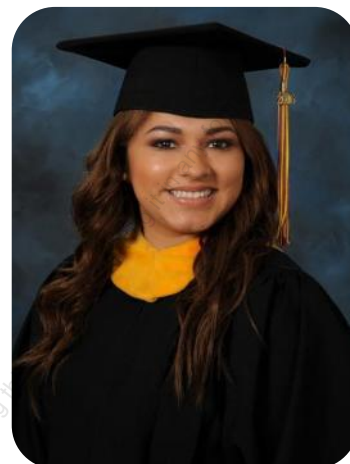
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Political Science and Global  
Politics



Segura, Sandra  
Biology



Sierra, Andrea Cecilia  
Criminology and Political  
Science



Silva, Krystal  
Nursing



Sipaque, Giselle  
Political Science



Solomon, Tricia  
Chemistry



Soriano, Audrey Nicole  
Healthcare Policy



Stevenson, Elizabeth Marie  
Nursing





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Film, Media and Social  
Justice



Tayo, Katrina  
Nursing



Tejeda, Joanna  
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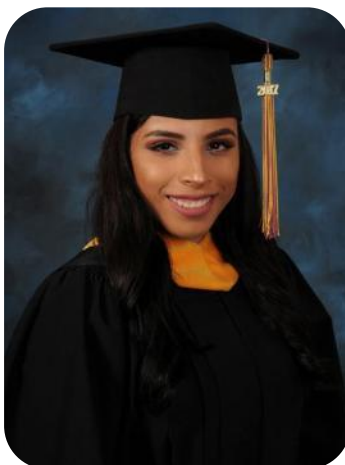
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Alejandra  
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Velasquez, Isabel  
Sociology



Ventura, Josselyn  
Marielos  
Gerontology



Ventura, Lindsey  
Sociology



Villanueva, Jessica  
Nursing



Vinas, Jennifer  
Nursing



Vita, Garrett  
Nursing



Vita, Grant  
Nursing



Walton, LaQuwanda  
Business Administration



Wang, Liya  
Art

CONGRATULATIONS





Weiske, Madison  
Film and Media



Williams, Monica  
Healthcare Policy



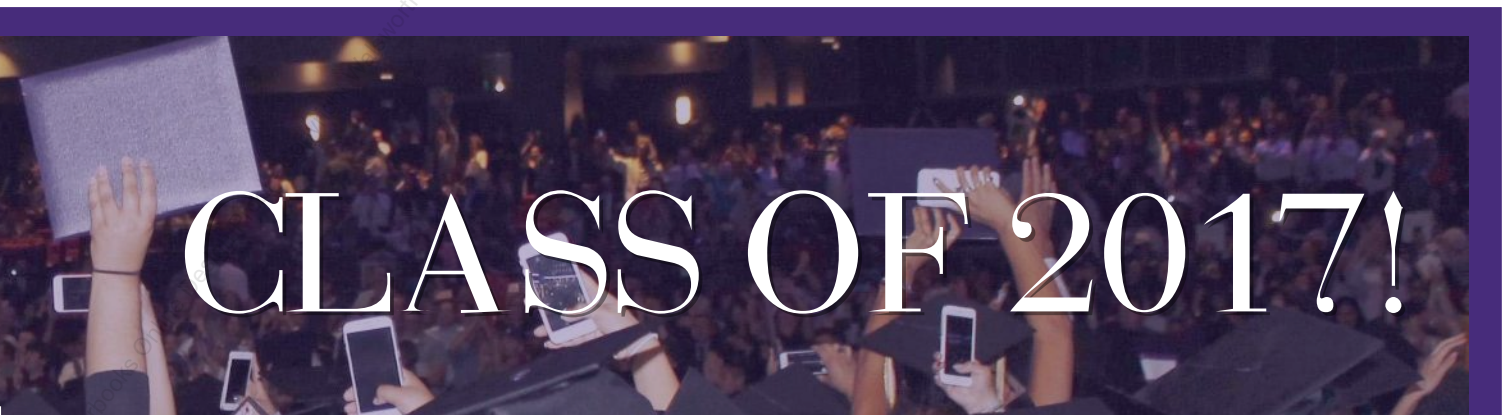
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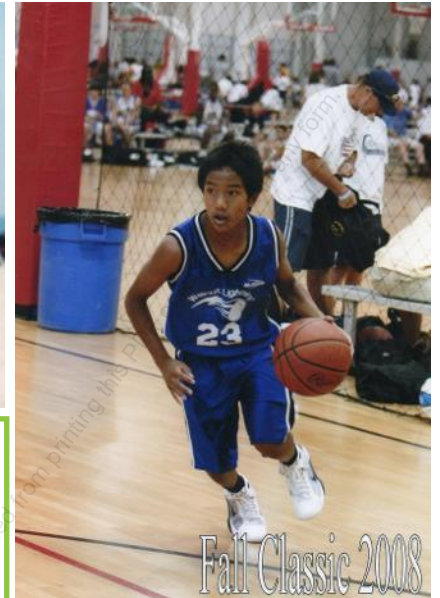


Yocum, Laura  
Psychology



Zambrano, Karina  
Psychology





## Garette & Grant Vita

"Dear Garrett & Grant,  
You may have graduated today but you were a WINNER in our eyes since the very beginning. Your graduation marks the culmination of all the hard work, determination, brains, and willingness to learn. It is an outstanding achievement! The degree that you earned is not just a piece of paper but rather is a set of wings that will help you fly away and burst out of the horizon into a new world called YOUR LIFE. Go forth in life to achieve your dreams, chase your passion, and continue even with more successes. All you have to do is believe you can. We believe in you! Congratulations and we are so very proud of you!

Love, Mom & Dad"

"Congratulations, Grant and Garrett!  
We are blessed for having both of you as our grandchildren. You surely are a big part of our pride and joy! We love you! Grandma and Grandpa"





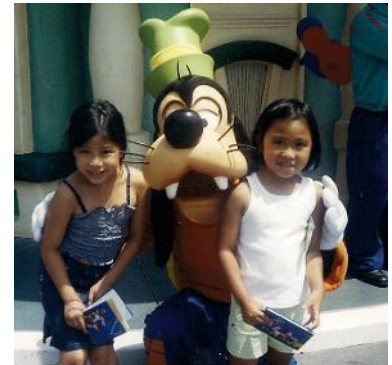


To Our Dearest Allyza,

We've watched you grow into a very hard working, accomplished young woman. We knew from the very beginning that you were set to make a difference in the world and look where it brought you. The passion and dedication you put into everything you do is absolutely inspiring. Cheers to the people you're going to meet and the lives you're about to change! Be kind, always do good, and don't forget to have fun with life! Congratulations Allyza, we love so much! May the Lord bless you through this incredible journey.

Always,

Mom, Dad, and Grandma





# Yearbook Staff 2016 - 2017



## A Note from the Editor

Never in my dreams did I think I would take on the role of Editor-in-Chief but there I was and one year later I am seeing the fruit of this great experience. Through this role I was able to learn to manage and develop my leadership potential. Since the beginning I had the trust and support of Dr. Faraah Mullings and Aja Smith. Without them I would have never had the courage and strength to progress in the field of yearbook. I also had beside me a fantastic leadership group that kept me on task and motivated. Thank you Brianna Mendez, Section Editor and Patricia Arias, Design Editor.

During the School year we had new and innovative events. For example we had Mount Weekender where students got to go on a three day trip to Yosemite National Park, The Leadership Summit where women got to ask Mount faculty for advice to become a better leader, and so much more. There were also empowering events like the STEM symposium where students presented on their year long research and The Report on the Status of Women and Girls in California hosted at the Skirball Cultural Center. These events are all thanks to the dedication and admiration Mount Saint Mary's University has towards us, the students. The passion from the school and the students is what we emphasized and showcased in this yearbook.

I would like to thank my 2016-2017 staff for all their hard work, long hours, and dedication to the completion of this magnificent book, thank you Destiny Osborne for contributing to the yearbook as part of our Fall 2016 staff and thank you, to all the volunteers and departments. This book holds our legacy and our journey here at the Mount. I hope you enjoy it and congratulations to the Class of 2017!

Stephanie Castillo, Class of 2018, Bachelor of Arts in Chemistry



Stephanie Castillo  
Editor-in-chief





Brianna Mendez  
Section Editor



Patricia Arias  
Design Editor



Isela Retana-Torres  
Staff



Caitlyn Kieve  
Staff



Lauren Moore  
Staff



Heaven Mella  
Doheny Staff



Isabella Solano  
Staff



Dr. Farrah Mullings  
Advisor



Jennifer Frias  
Advisor

# In Loving Memory of.... Michelle Lewis

**A**ngel, mentor, adviser, friend and Family. Michelle Lewis was this and so much more to many Mount students, faculty, and staff. Some shared unforgettable experiences with her. She worked at The Mount for 20 years as the Director of the Institute for Student Academic Enrichment (ISAE). She gave hope and happiness to all who interacted with her. Students would leave her office feeling worthy and ready to take on what the world offered. As any talented person would, she danced her way into everyone's heart making life seem a party and our worries light as a feather.

She shared deep compassion and understanding. Once you met Michelle, you were immediately family. Pass by her and she would ask about your health and well-being because she genuinely cared. Truly an angel at site and heart, MSMU held a memorial for her on November 2, 2016 in the afternoon.

As the sun set, members of The Mount community walked into the chapel. President Ann McElaney-Johnson began the procession introducing the ISAE and Learning Center staff. At the end of the trail followed Alvaro Miranda holding a picture of Michelle. At the sight of her, many began to tear up as the privilege of seeing her again was far from reach. Gail Gresser read a prayer and words of the lord to ease the aching hearts. God and Jesus have Michelle celebrating in the heavens, happy and cheerful like always.

Afterwards, all were invited to go up to her picture displayed and lay a flower and talk to her with warm words. The chapel was filled with



memories and thoughts of Michelle. There was a reception after the ceremony to celebrate Michelle's life with her favorite food, dessert, and Tab soda. Michelle was an angel on earth and now she gets to be an angel in Heaven. Your memory and legacy will live on forever.

By: Stephanie Castillo









Mount Saint Mary's University

LOS ANGELES